Atlanta Pride Celebration
June 2000 Piedmont Park

Building our Future Together

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The Atlanta PRIDE Committee's Official Guide

ATLANTA PRIDE 2000

Festival Layout and Map
Showtime Networks Stage Line Up
The PRIDE Market & Stage Listing

Inside:
The Atlanta Music Scene
The Pink Dollar
History of Pride in Atlanta
Gay Travel Guide
Fitness, Pride and You

five dollars

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Important Nutrients For Your Immune System

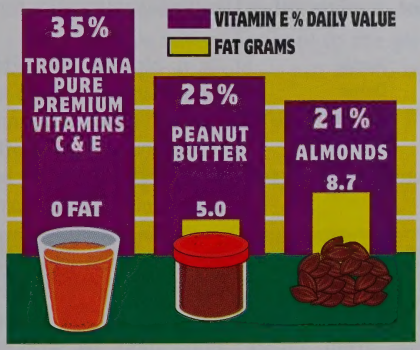
Q: Which nutrients are important for a strong immune system?

A: The immune system is a collection of disease-fighting cells and tissues throughout the body that protect us from illness, so it is important to keep it strong. While the best advice is to eat a well-balanced diet with lots of fruits and vegetables, recent attention has focused on antioxidants, including vitamins C and E, as well as iron and zinc, and the role they play with the immune system.

- Vitamins C & E function as an antioxidant team. Both are required for a healthy immune system. Vitamin C is found in fruits and vegetables while vitamin E is found in vegetable oils, nuts and wheat germ. Tropicana Pure Premium Double Vitamin C with Vitamin E orange juice contains this antioxidant team in one convenient glass. Each serving provides double the vitamin C of regular orange juice (240% of the daily value) as well as 35% of the daily value for vitamin E, in a naturally fat-free form.
- The minerals iron and zinc are found in meat, seafood, fortified cereals, beans and whole grains. Be sure to include a food high in vitamin C with plant sources of iron to increase absorption.

A glass of 100% juice counts as one serving of fruit and can help you meet your goal of at least five servings of fruit and vegetables each day. An advantage to getting the nutrients mentioned above from food, rather than supplements, is that you also benefit from the other valuable nutrients that occur naturally in food.

POPULAR FOODS HIGH IN VITAMIN E



Carla McGill, Ph.D., R.D. Nutrition Sciences Tropicana North America

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Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages, Inc. Celebrates Ten Years of Pride!

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the nation's first federally registered and openly gay publication.

For the past ten years, Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages, Inc. (GLYP) has provided a professional publication offering gay-friendly businesses a vehicle to advertise and market their products and services to the gay community. This free publication is an invaluable tool to individuals who want to (and should) spend their 'gay dollars' with businesses that recognize atlernative lifestyles.

Dreams, passion and drive: the perfect combination that builds communities.

The Houston-based Corporation is the creation of its dynamic Publisher and CEO, Laura Villagrán, who founded the company on the fundamental philosophy of equality, respect and dignity for all – all year long.

Villagrán's vision became a reality with her first 48-page publication of Gay Yellow Pages in the summer of 1991. Today, Houston's Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages has grown to almost 400 pages and, with a staff of only seven, produces annual directories for twelve other American cities:

Atlanta	Miami	Austin
Phoenix	Ft. Lauderdale	Dallas
New York	Tampa/St. Pete	San Antonio
Denver	Orlando	New Orleans

Continually looking toward the future, GLYP plans to expand worldwide.

The fruition of a dream and subsequent ownership of a successful corporation gives cause for celebration. GLYP chooses to celebrate by giving back to the community. Aside from direct contributions to various charities throughout the years of growth, GLYP donates a portion of each directory to feature local non-profit agencies. Nationwide, GLYP donates over $400,000 annually to promoting local not-for-profit groups, which, if less generous, would have generated significant additional advertising dollars.

While GLYP's tenth anniversary is exciting, the milestone represents so much more. GLYP can now count several national and international corporations as both advertisers and distributors of the directory. Corporations are now recognizing the collective spending power of this affluent market segment, now in excess of $540 billion. The gay community is more committed than ever to spending their 'gay dollars' with those gay-friendly companies that recognize and acknowledge their lifestyle.

GLYP is a source of pride for the gay community – it is known as **The Directory That Reaches the Heart of the Gay Community™** and for two consecutive years *Hispanic Magazine* has listed Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages, Inc., among America's Top 100 Fastest-Growing Hispanic-Owned Companies and ranked the company forty-fourth in 1998.

In closing, Villagrán is proof that dreams, passion and drive are the perfect combination that builds communities, and for Villagran, persistence has paid off. She constantly thanks the gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender community for the trust and support throughout the years. To her customers, she says, "Special thanks to those businesses and individuals (you know who you are!) that have been a big part of our growth and success. We welcome everyone to Southern Pride 2000. We wish you a fun, exciting and safe celebration of everything we know we are, and everything we hope to be! And remember: ***Choose and use GLYP first!***"

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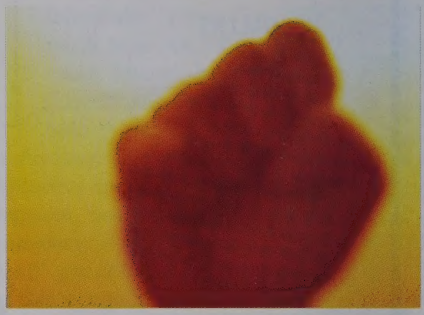

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Drawing will be conducted on or about October 11, 2000 by an independent judging organization whose decisions are final in all matters relating to the sweepstakes. Odds of winning depend upon the total number of entries received. 3. ELIGIBILITY. Sweepstakes is open to legal U.S. residents 21 years of age or older at the time of entry who have a valid, current drivers license. Sweepstakes is not open to employees of Jim Beam, its affiliates, subsidiaries, parent companies, retailers, wholesalers or distributors of alcoholic beverages and the director, officers, employees, agents of each of the entities listed above, printers of sweepstakes materials, sweepstakes materials suppliers, and advertising, promotion and other coordinating agencies involved in this promotion and the immediate families (spouses and parents, children, and siblings and their spouses) or persons living in the same household of each. Sweepstakes void in CA and wherever prohibited. 4. PRIZE/VALUE. One (1) 2000 or 2001 Volkswagen Beetle. Car is equipped with air conditioning and AM/FM Stereo/Cassette. Approximate Retail Value: $25,000. Or, winner may elect to receive $25,000 in cash in lieu of car. 5. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Winners must provide positive identification specified by Jim Beam Brands Co. to claim a prize and will be required to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility and Publicity Release without additional compensation (where per-mitted by law). Potential prize winner will be notified by mail or telephone on or about October 29, 2000 and will be required to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility/Release of Liability and Publicity (where permitted) within 14 days of first attempted delivery of same. Noncompliance within time period or return of prize notification as undeliverable may result in disqualification and selection of an alternate winner. Upon verification of eligibility, prize winner will be notified by mail regarding the details of their prize. 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Entries become the property of Sponsor and will not be returned. Sponsor, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to substitute prize of equal or greater value if advertised prize becomes unavailable. No prize substitutions except as provided herein. Prize is non-transferable. By entering this Sweepstakes, each entrant agrees to abide by and be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of the judges. Sponsor is not responsible for lost, late, illegible, incomplete, damaged, misdirected, mutilated entries or postage-due mail or entries. 6. WINNER LIST. For the name of the winner, send a stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope to: DeKuyper Pucker Schnapps "Win A Sour Apple Mobile" Sweepstakes Winner List, P.O. Box 1403, Lombard, IL, 60148-8403. Winner List will be sent when the sweepstakes is over and prize awarded. Requests for Winner List must be received by October 31, 2000. 7. OFFICIAL RULES. For a copy of the Official Rules, send a stamped, self-addressed, #10 envelope to: DeKuyper Pucker Schnapps "Win A Sour Apple Mobile" Sweepstakes Official Rules, P.O. Box 1403 Lombard, IL 60148-8403. Requests must be received by September 22, 2000. WA and VT residents may omit return postage. Sponsor: Jim Beam Brands Co., Deerfield, IL

Official Sweepstakes Entry Form "Win A Sour Apple Mobile"

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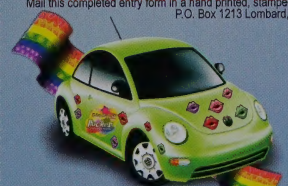

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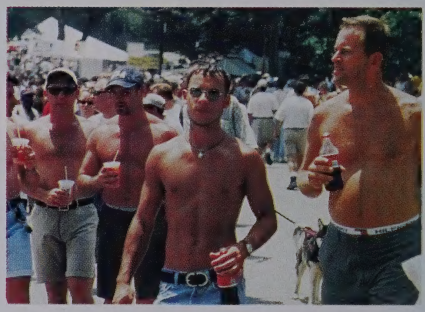

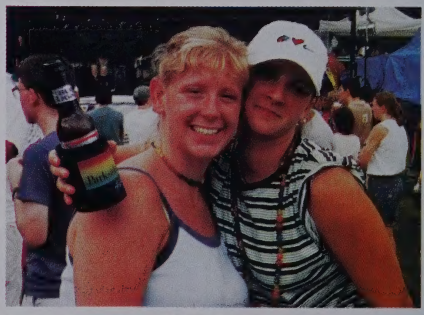

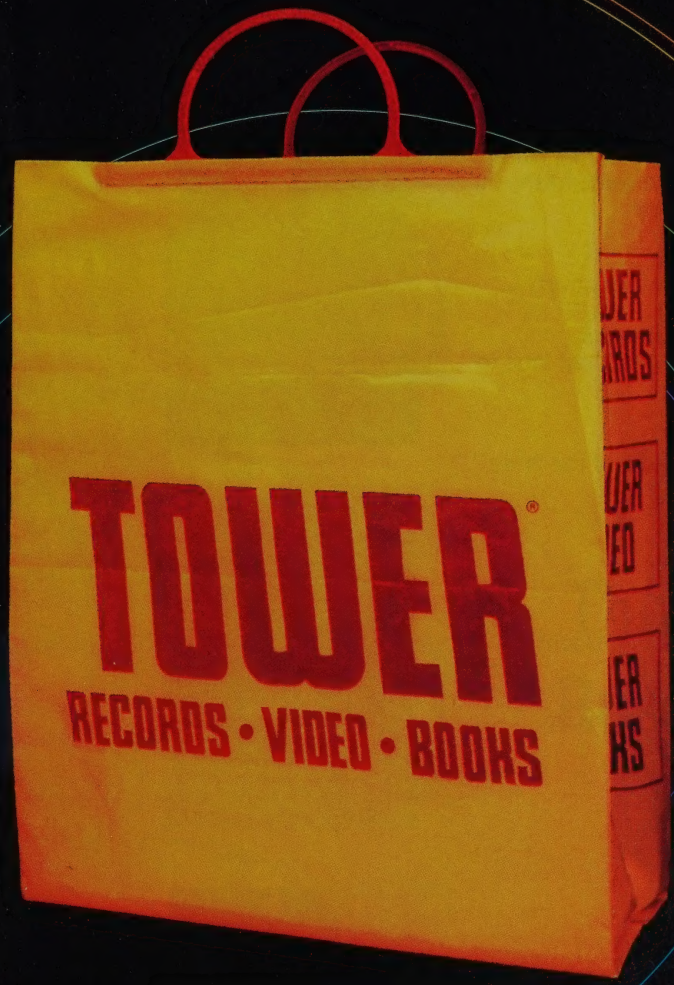

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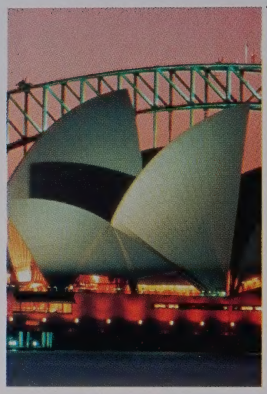

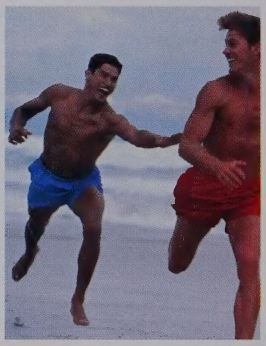

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

THE ATLANTA PRIDE COMMITTEE

Welcome to the 30th Anniversary Celebration of Pride in Atlanta!

Throughout the month of June the Atlanta Pride Committee has coordinated with the cultural institutions in Atlanta to bring you art exhibits, theatrical performances, radio and television programming, poetry readings, film screenings, and musical entertainment by, for, and about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

The very first Pride event held in Atlanta was a march to the state capitol in June of 1970. At that time, a small group (100 or so people) marched to the capitol to mark the first anniversary of the Stonewall riots that had occurred the year before. At this first march many of the participants had to wear paper bags over their heads so they wouldn't be recognized by anyone. They feared they might loose their jobs, or be ostracized by family and friends.

Over the years the paper bags on Pride marchers have come off, and we openly march down Peachtree Street in Atlanta and hold a 3-day festival and celebration in our city's largest park. The Atlanta Pride festival has grown from a hundred or so participants to hundreds of thousands.

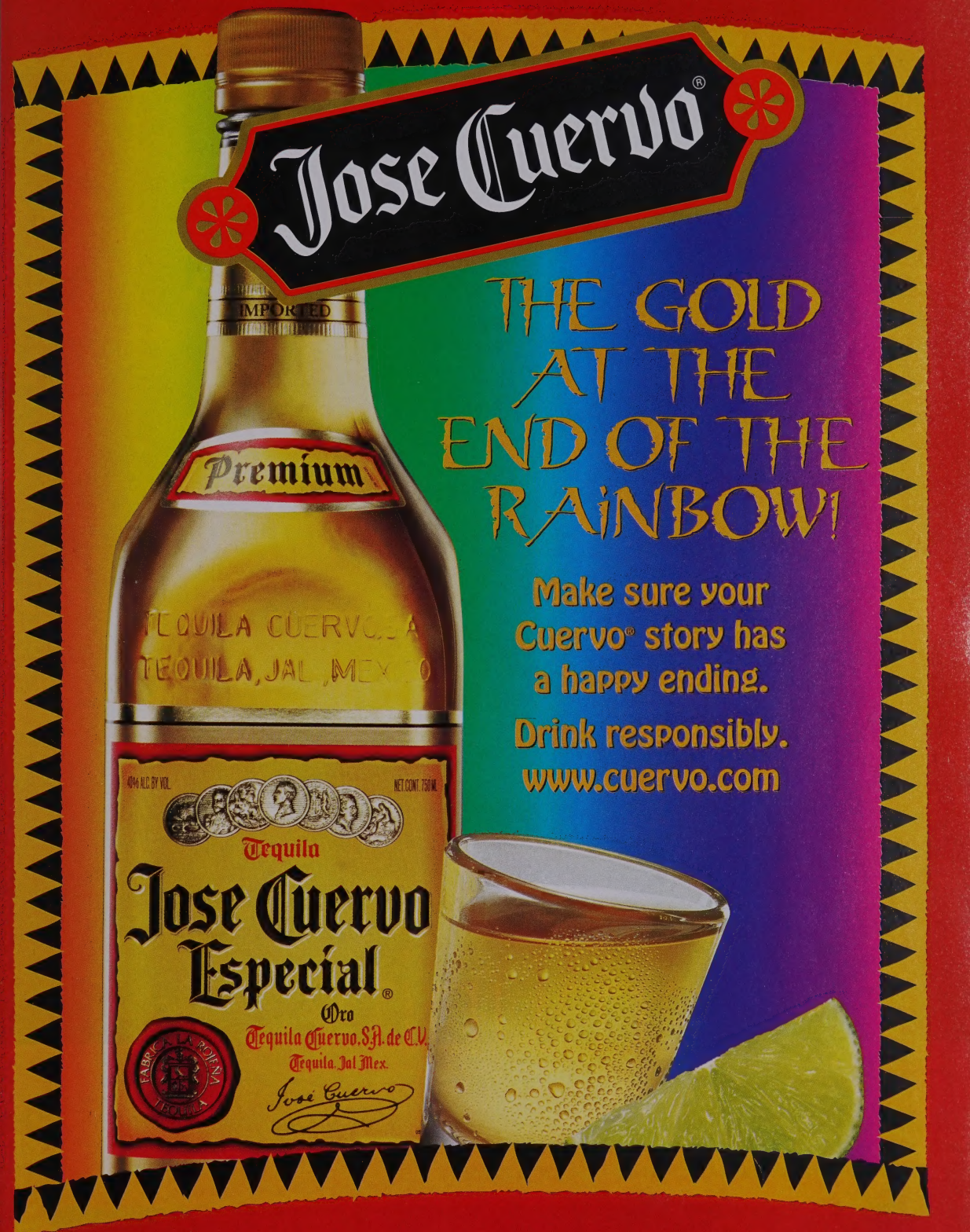
During the festival you can participate in a Commitment Ceremony, an AIDS Vigil, shop our market place, play with your kids at "Children's Kamp", and enjoy all the great music, food and beverages. Sunday's parade promises to be lively and colorful, and the festival will come to a close with the traditional drag show that pays tribute to the Atlanta drag community who continue to be pivotal players in our common struggle for acceptance and equality.

The Pride Celebration is one of the most empowering events for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. Last year alone, over 16 million people participated in Pride celebrations around the world. That's powerful! Here in Atlanta our Pride Celebration brings together the Southeast's largest gathering of our community's, businesses, artists, musicians, social, political, and spiritual groups. During this month of June let's take a moment to remember our history and continue to work on "Building Our Future Together"

Yours in Pride,

Trisha Clymore, Festival Director
Paul Gibson, Director of Finance
Donna Narducci, Executive Director
Glen Paul Freedman, Board Co-Chair,
Jane Radenhausen, Board Co-Chair

If you would like to volunteer Pride weekend, or make a financial contribution to the Pride Committee, please call our office at 404/ 876-3700 or visit our web site at: www.atlantapride.org



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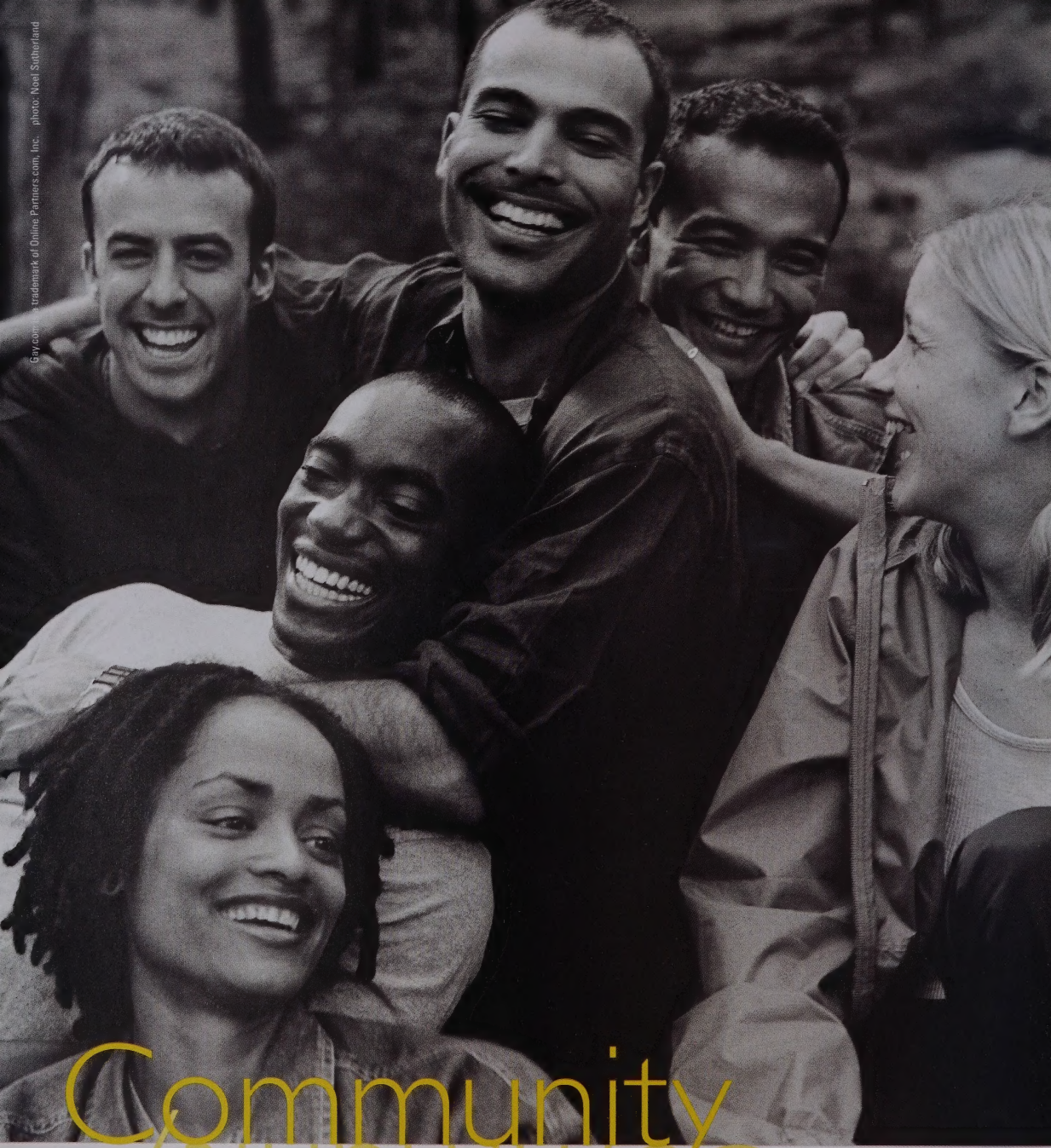

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THE WHITE HOUSE

June 2, 2000
GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE MONTH, 2000

BY THE PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Gay and lesbian Americans have made important and lasting contributions to our Nation in every field of endeavor. Too often, however, gays and lesbians face prejudice and discrimination; too many have had to hide or deny their sexual orientation in order to keep their jobs or to live safely in their communities.

In recent years, we have made some progress righting these wrongs. Since the Stonewall uprising in New York City more than 30 years ago, the gay and lesbian rights movement has united gays and lesbians, their families and friends, and all those committed to justice and equality in a crusade to outlaw discriminatory laws and practices and to protect gays and lesbians from prejudice and persecution.

I am proud of the part that my Administration has played to achieve these goals. Today, more openly gay and lesbian individuals serve in senior posts throughout the Federal Government than during any other Administration. To build on our progress, in 1998 I issued an Executive Order to prohibit discrimination in the Federal civilian workforce based on sexual orientation, and my Administration continues to fight for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would outlaw discrimination in the workplace based on sexual orientation.

Yet many challenges still lie before us. As we have learned from recent tragedies, prejudice against gays and lesbians can still erupt into acts of hatred and violence. I continue to call upon the Congress to pass meaningful hate crimes legislation to strengthen the Department of Justice's ability to prosecute hate crimes committed due to the victim's sexual orientation.

With each passing year the American people become more receptive to diversity and more open to those who are different from themselves. Our Nation is at last realizing that gays and lesbians must no longer be "strangers among friends," as the civil rights pioneer David Mixner once noted. Rather, we must finally recognize these Americans for what they are: our colleagues and neighbors, daughters and sons, sisters and brothers, friends and partners.

This June, recognizing the joys and sorrows that the gay and lesbian movement has witnessed and the work that remains to be done, we observe Gay and Lesbian Pride Month and celebrate the progress we have made in creating a society more inclusive and accepting of gays and lesbians. I hope that in this new millennium we will continue to break down the walls of fear and prejudice and work to build a bridge to understanding and tolerance, until gays and lesbians are afforded the same rights and responsibilities as all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim June 2000 as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month. I encourage all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that celebrate our diversity and recognize the gay and lesbian Americans whose many and varied contributions have enriched our national life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Atlanta Pride Celebration

Building our Future Together

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

THE VICE PRESIDENT

Washington
March 14, 2000

Dear Friends,

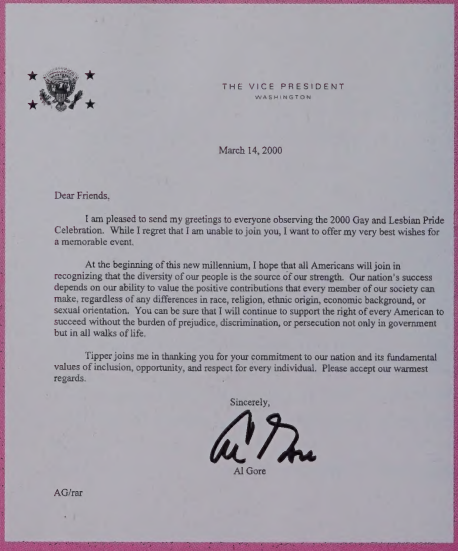
I am pleased to send my greetings to everyone observing the 2000 Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration. While I regret that I am unable to join you, I want to offer my very best wishes for a memorable event.

At the beginning of this new millennium, I hope that all Americans will join in recognizing that the diversity of our people is the source of our strength. Our nation's success depends on our ability to value the positive contributions that every member of our society can make regardless of any differences in race, religion, ethnic origin, economic background, or sexual orientation. You can be sure that I will continue to support the right of every American to success without the burden of prejudice, discrimination, or persecution not only in government but in all walks of life.

Tipper joins me in thanking you for your commitment to our nation and its fundamental values of inclusion, opportunity and respect for every individual. Please accept our warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Al Gore



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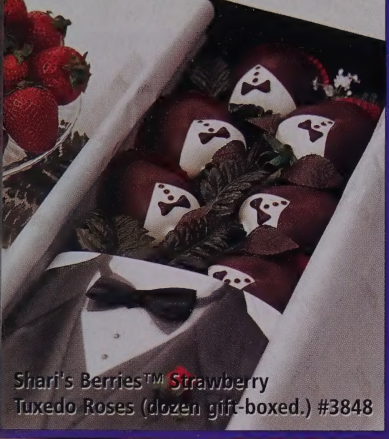
Sincerely,

Al Gore

AG/rar



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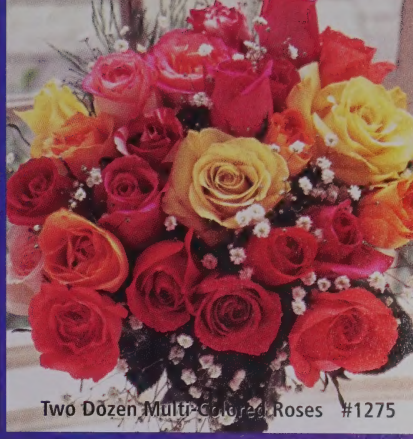

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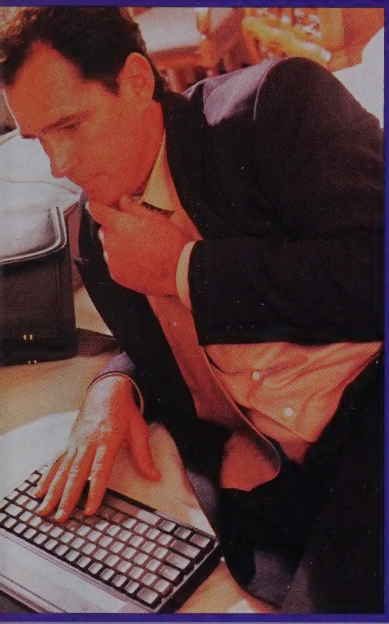

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

CITY OF ATLANTA

BILL CAMPBELL
MAYOR

Greetings

Thirty years ago in the City of Atlanta, a small number of committed gay activists began the celebration of diversity which we now call PRIDE. Now the fourth largest PRIDE in the Nation, I congratulate Atlanta's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community on this gala 30th Anniversary, ***Building Our Future Together***.

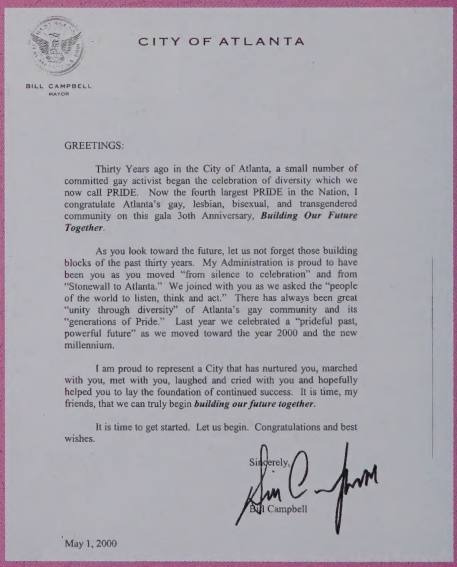
As you look toward the future, let us not forget those building blocks of the past thirty years. My Administration is proud to have been there for you as you moved "from silence to celebration" and from "Stonewall to Atlanta". We joined with you as we asked "the people of the world to listen, think and act". There has always been great "unity through diversity" of Atlanta's gay community and its "generations of Pride". Last year we celebrated a "prideful past, powerful future" as we moved toward the year 2000 and the new millennium.

I am proud to represent a City that has nurtured you, marched with you, met with you laughed and cried with you and hopefully helped you lay the foundation of continued success. It is time, my friends, that we can truly ***begin building our future together***.

It is time to get started. Let us begin.
Congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Bill Campbell



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Sincerely,

Bill Campbell

May 1, 2000

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Atlanta Pride Celebration

Building our Future Together

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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MIKE KENN
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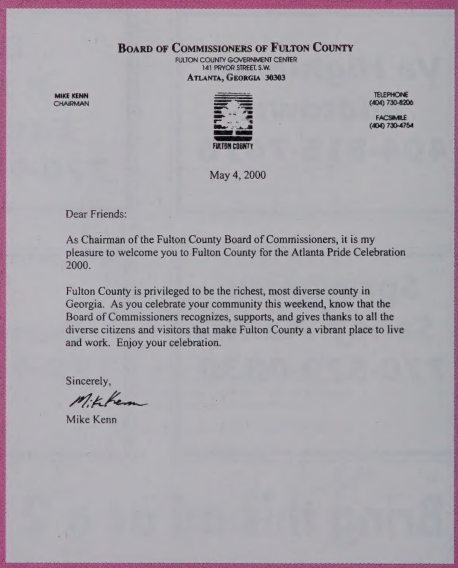
Dear friends

As Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Fulton County for the Atlanta Pride Celebration 2000.

Fulton County is priveleged to be the richest, most diverse county in Georgia. As you celebrate your community this weekend, know that the Board of Commissioners recognizes, supports and gives thanks to all diverse citizens and visitors that make Fulton County a vibrant place to live and work. Enjoy your celebration.

Sincerely,

Mike Kenn



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FULTON COUNTY
FULTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
141 PRYOR STREET S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

MIKE KENN
CHAIRMAN

FULTON COUNTY

TELEPHONE
(404) 730-8206

FACSIMILE
(404) 730-4754

May 4, 2000

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Sincerely,

M. Kenn

Mike Kenn

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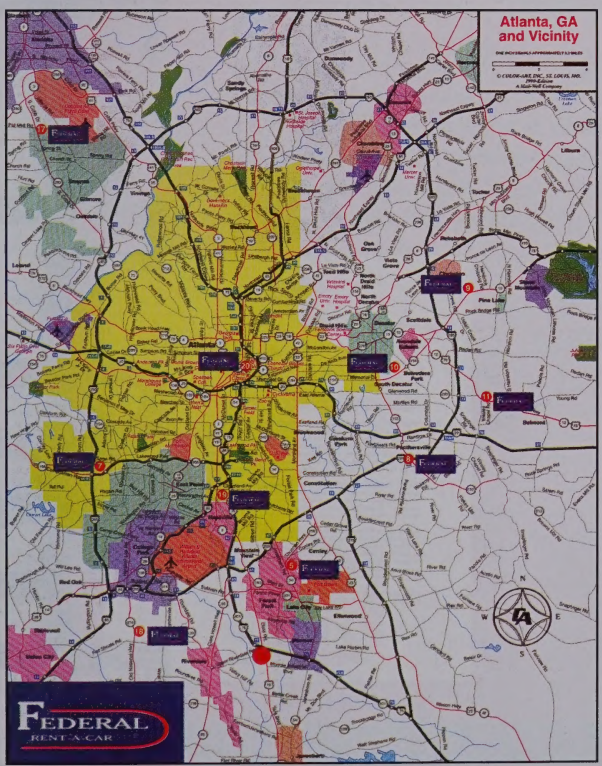

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Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

CATHY WOOLARD
Council member
District 6

Dear Celebrants,

On behalf of the City of Atlanta, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Piedmont Park for the 30th Annual Pride Celebration.

As we enter a new century, our local community faces a wealth of social, political and cultural opportunities unimaginable a generation ago. LGBT people are helping to rebuild and improve neighborhoods throughout the City. We are serving proudly and openly as elected officials, business leaders and community volunteers. Most importantly, through our cultivation of strong diverse communities, we are building the groundwork for a new world that no longer fears us but instead celebrates our intrinsic value to society.

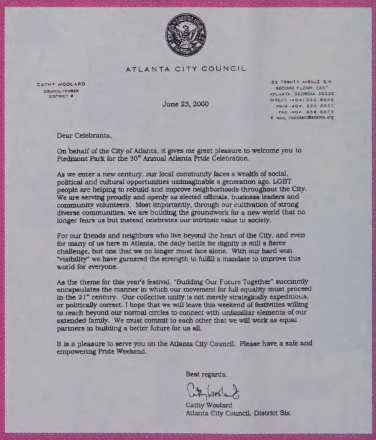
For our friends and neighbors who live beyond the heart of the City, and even for many of us here in Atlanta, the daily battle for dignity is still a fierce challenge, but one that we no longer must face alone. With our hard won "visibility" we have garnered the strength to fulfill a mandate to improve this world for everyone.

As the theme for this year's festival, "Building Our Future Together" succinctly encapsulates the manner in which our movement for full equality must proceed in the 21st century. Our collective unity is not merely strategically expeditious, or politically correct. I hope that we will leave this weekend of festivities willing to reach beyond our normal circles to connect with the unfamiliar elements of our extended family. We must commit to each other that we will work as equal partners in building a better future for us all.

It is a pleasure to serve you on the Atlanta City Council. Please have a safe and empowering Pride Weekend.

Best regards,

Cathy Woolard



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

CATHY WOOLARD
COUNCIL MEMBER
DISTRICT 6

55 TRINITY AVENUE S.W.
SECOND FLOOR, EAST
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30335
DIRECT (404) 330-6045
MAIN (404) 330-6030
FAX (404) 658-6073
E-MAIL CWOOLARD@ATLANTA.GA.US

June 23, 2000

Dear Celebrants,

On behalf of the City of Atlanta, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Piedmont Park for the 30th Annual Atlanta Pride Celebration.

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Best regards,

Cathy Woolard
Atlanta City Council, District Six

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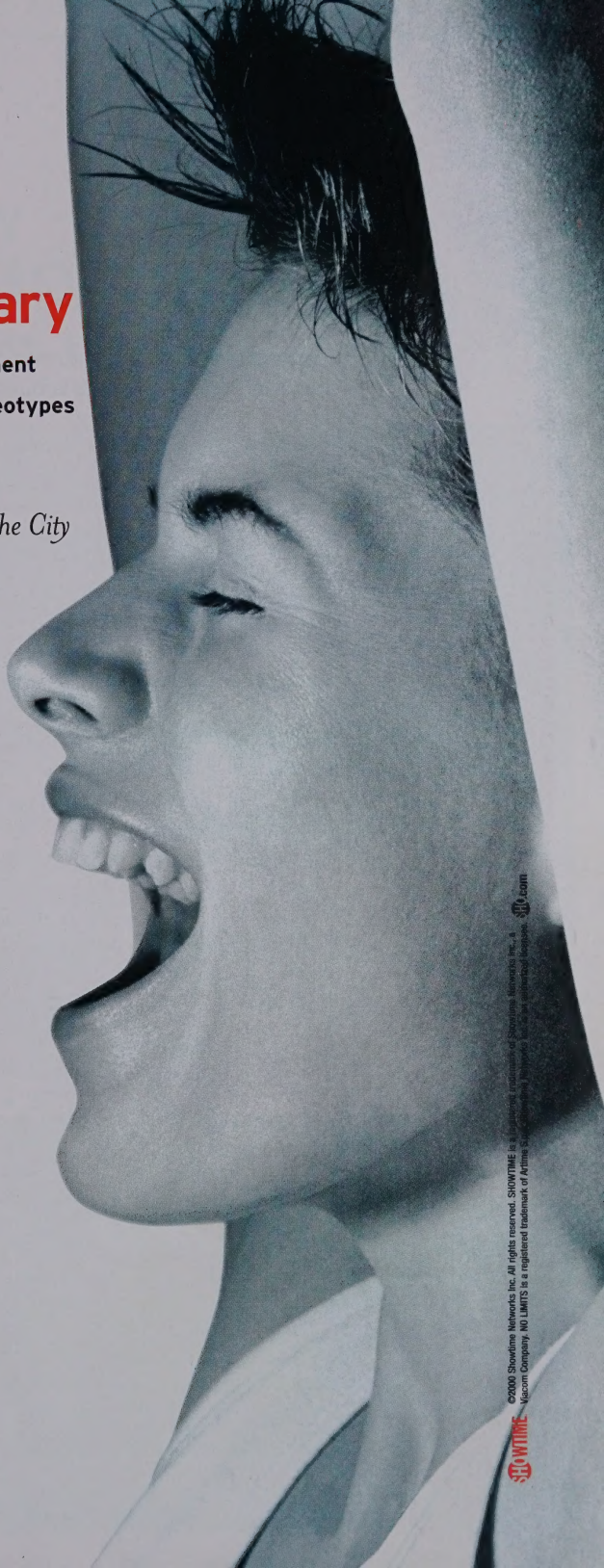

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
June 23rd - 25th Piedmont Park
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Welcome to **PRIDE**

Lost and found – Sorry, but we don't run a lost and found. Items left unattended are subject to being confiscated.

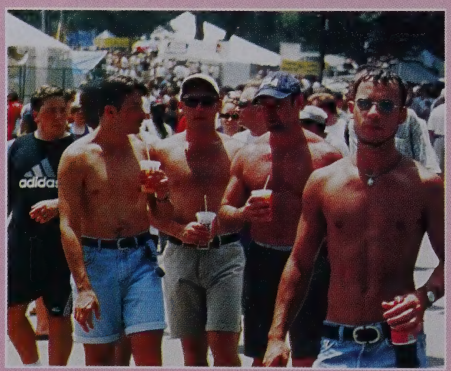
Safety and the crowd – Sunday afternoon it is all we can do to keep things running on track. SO RESPECT THE WALKWAYS! Please listen to our Event Staff. You are the best protection we all have. If you see something odd, "QUIETLY", let a Pride Staffer or the Police know about it! Don't panic!

Drinking water – It is hot out here so drink lots and lots of WATER, it's good for you. You will find coolers for a free cup of cool H20 throughout the festival.

Rest rooms – 3 sets, one on Charles Allen, one by the market and one by the ShowTime Stage. Wait your turn, it will happen …Promise!

Physically challenged – the big rest rooms, the reserved spaces down by the stage, etc, are for those who REALLY NEED them! Please respect their use.

First Aid – provided this year in conjunction with CVS Procare and Emory Healthcare, there are three first aid centers located by the Charles Allen entrance, in the market and by the food vendors… IF YOU NEED HELP – GO NOW!!



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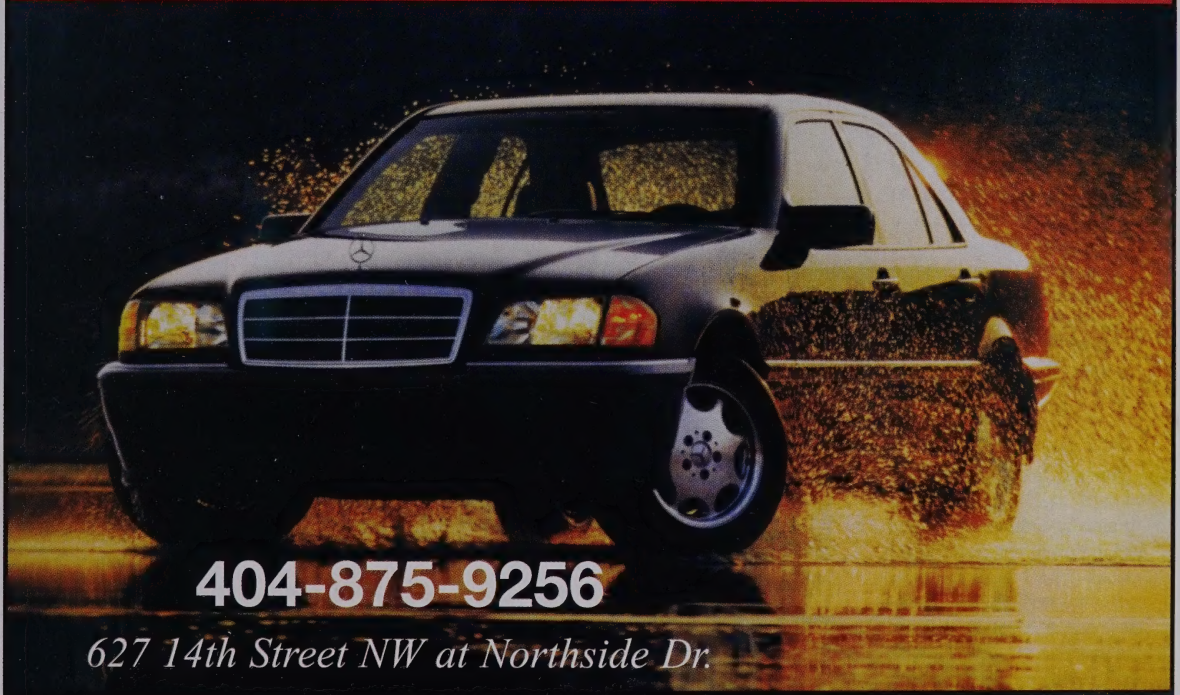

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It is 2:00 a.m. June 28, 1969, at 53 Christopher Street in Greenwich Village and the day after Judy Garland's funeral. The New York City Police arrive at the Stonewall Inn with a warrant to shut it down for illegal alcohol sales- an increasingly frequent occurrence at gay bars all over the city. This time instead of fleeing, the bartender, the doorman, three drag queens, and a lesbian fight back. Their numbers quickly grow. The police barricade themselves inside the bar. The crowd sets it on fire. The rioting begins with nearly a thousand people both gay and straight and several hundred police.

The outrage continues the next day as the owners of the bar return to repair the damage from the fire, and discover that the bar has been robbed by the police – cash register, safe, jukebox, cigarette machine, and even the tip jar.

By Saturday evening, the crowd of protesters has swelled to two thousand engaged in guerrilla warfare with the police in their attempt to reclaim their Village.

The echo of these brave people's shouts of "Gay Power!" circle the globe still.

Atlanta Pride
and Proud for Thirty Years

By Bill Murphy

The Atlanta of 1970 bears very little resemblance to our city today. With a population of nearly 500,000, it was a conservative Southern city with white leadership, despite being the cradle of the Civil Rights Movement. The Hyatt Regency's blue dome dominated the skyline of downtown, and Underground Atlanta was the party capital of the South. There was no MARTA. The downtown connector was four lanes – two north; two south. Hippies reigned in Midtown, shacked up in rundown boarding houses and getting high on The Strip, as Peachtree was then known, selling copies of "The Great Speckled Bird," the alternative newspaper, to get enough money to score a nickel bag.

And, on June 27 in commemoration of the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, about a hundred members of the newly formed Gay Liberation Front and Gay Activist Alliance held a rally. It was called Gay Pride.

Within a year in 1971, we had become a visible presence in the city, with public outcry from the residents of then ungentrified Ansley Park complaining of our assembling in Winn Park. And so we expanded our celebration to include a parade of a hundred people marching down Peachtree from 7th Street to the Capitol, and the GLF dug in its heels and became incorporated. Even at great risk of physical safety, job security, and loss of friends and family, we were not turning back.

By 1972, there was no stopping us. People were "coming out"; many who were prominent in the community. The GLF opened offices on Pine Street, and First MCC was formed, and grew so quickly that they moved from the Pocket Theatre on Courtland Street to their own home in Decatur, and ALFA, the Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance, was founded. Pride grew to Gay Pride Week, with a press conference in front of the State Capitol, the cover story in "The Great Speckled Bird", a dance with live entertainment, the first cultural performances, and the march down Peachtree and rally in Piedmont Park with 300 participants. But not all was well. The radical community distanced itself from its members who came out, and Frank Powell, a well known gay bar owner, publicly denounced homosexuality as a sin. It did get the media to notice us, though...and Mayor Sam Massell appointed Charlie St. John, Chair of Pride, to the Community Relations Commission as an openly gay man.

In 1973, copy boy Charlie St. John was fired by the Atlanta Journal and Constitution for his gay activities. Mayor Sam Massell retaliated by announcing that the City of Atlanta would not discriminate against gay people in city services. The result was more people coming out for Pride, although many wore paper bags over their heads. It was both for protection from being recognized and to send the message, "you don't know who's under here – it could be anyone you know."

"The Atlanta Barb" debuted in 1974, calling itself the "Groovy newspaper serving Atlanta and the Southeast." We have a monthly Gay paper! The ALFA Women entered the city softball league – and of course, won. Charis Books and More opened its doors to the women of the community. Shockingly, in early June, waitresses are fired from Denny's on Monroe Drive for encouraging homosexuals to patronize the restaurant. As a result, Pride grew, with a week long celebration including worship services, a talent show and beauty contest, a carnival, films, rap sessions, culminating with a pot luck picnic in Piedmont Park, but no parade.

Representative John Lewis, a supporter of the Gay Rights Movement from the beginning, stepped up to the plate in 1975 and sponsored a Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill. In May, The Great Southeastern Lesbian Conference sparked even further interest, and attendance at the Pride picnic in Piedmont Park swelled to over 600, even without a parade.

The Bi-Centennial year 1976 brought both great progress and a major backlash. Mayor Maynard Jackson held true to his promise and declared June 26th Gay Pride Day! In appreciation, he was presented with the Cecil B. DeMille award at Phyllis Killer's Oscar Party at the Sweet Gum Head. In protest, a group called "Citizens for a Decent Atlanta" was formed comprised of many of the city's conservative and religious leaders – notably Rev. William Self of Wieuca Road Baptist Church, Cecil Day of Day's Inns, and Dillard Munford of Majik Market. The Supreme Court got its first

Atlanta Pride
and Proud for Thirty Years

challenge of sodomy laws. All of the gay and lesbian organizations worked together on the Pride program out of the newly formed Gay Center on 4th Street, the parade was re-instated from the Civic Center to Piedmont Park, and 1,000 people attended. The slogan for the year was "We Were There," and we were.

1977 marked the year that gay rights made mainstream press with Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" campaign to fight Dade County Florida's non-discrimination policy. With Anita, "The Orange Juice Queen", as their leader, the religious right began to mobilize. Maynard Jackson, in an election year, even capitulated to the Citizens for a Decent Atlanta, proclaiming Civil Liberties Day which included sexual orientation among other minority groups, but the word "Gay" was not to be spoken. We made our own strides – the fight began to repeal the state sodomy law, First Tuesday, a Gay Democratic organization was founded, as was Atlanta Venture Sports. Congregations Atlanta raised $4,000 to fight against Anita in Miami. 1500 people marched from the Civic Center to Piedmont Park, where the crowd was estimated at 3,000.

The battle raged on against Anita Bryant in 1978, with her winning the first round when the Miami-Dade ordinance providing non-discrimination policies for gays and lesbians was repealed on June 6th. She was scheduled to appear at the Southern Baptist Convention at the World Congress Center on June 11, so Pride was moved to fit the date. 4,000 marched from Central City Park to the Congress Center in protest. On November 27th, San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone were murdered in City Hall by Dan White. White Night, the riot that followed that evening showed the world our power.

The Lavender Anniversary Celebration was the national theme for the 1979 tenth anniversary of Stonewall, and plans were being made for the first March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in October. Four buses made the trip to the march from Atlanta. The parade made its move to Sunday because the park was not reserved in time, and another event had been scheduled. Still, 1000 people marched. Gender parity and racial inclusion are finally brought to the table. Other events included the Lavendar Film Festival at MCC on N. Highland, and a performance of Maria Helena Dolan's "Trial of Dan White" on the steps of City Hall. After the event, the Pride Committee met and realistically discussed the event – both strengths and weaknesses. Special consideration is given to the PR process and how to gain the best exposure. Pride has become a major event.

Resultant of the previous year's discussions on inclusiveness, Pride changes its name in 1980 to Lesbian, Gay, and Transgendered Pride and adopts the slogan, "Let's Get Together." Despite controversy over the issue, for the first time bars and businesses step up to the plate as major supporters. The schedule changes to reflect an entire week of events with the march on Saturday, June 21 from Central City Park to Piedmont Park, cultural events, the film festival, church services, bar nights, and concerts throughout the week, and the big festival in the park on Saturday, June 28th celebrating Gay Solidarity Day on Stonewall's anniversary.

In 1981, the whole format changed again, with the march on Saturday, June 20th from Piedmont Park to City Hall and a post march celebration at The Cove. A new event during the week was the Mr. and Miss Gay Atlanta contest at The Answer, and the week's festivities concluded on Saturday, June 27th with a street fair/art show/dance on 7th Street between Piedmont and Juniper, packed with 4000 people. The entire budget came in at $3,536.00. Just weeks after the celebration, an article in The New York Times reported a strange new cancer taking the lives of gay men. This disease with no name changed the course of history.

Stonewall Then/Atlanta Now was the theme for L/G/T Pride in 1982. Similar to the program for the previous year, the week's events started with a carnival and street dance on Peachtree Place (between 8th and 10th Streets) and wrapped up the following Saturday with the march from Piedmont Park to the Capitol. More political meetings are added during the week, and the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus, now two years old, made their Pride debut in the courtyard of the Civic Center. Althea D. Wolf, fundraising and publicity chair created an organizational

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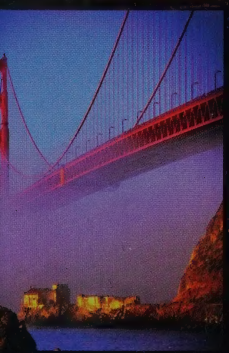

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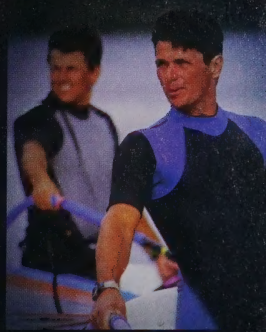

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Atlanta Pride
and Proud for Thirty Years

structure plan for Pride. And although the city issued an official proclamation, it lacked Mayor Andy Young's signature.

1983 marked the year of the first Candlelight Vigil for AIDS as the disease increasingly affected the Atlanta community. It is also the year for the first Dyke March from Candler Park to Little Five Points. The slogan stated, "Think Out, Write Out, Step Out," in an effort to unite all the events of the week. The old parade route from the Civic Center to the park is re-instated with 2500 marchers. With our increasing need for political power, the Atlanta Campaign for Human Rights (now Georgia Equality Project) is founded.

Mayor Andy Young finally recognized us in 1984 with a proclamation for "Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Day." A rally was held at the Civic Center, and then the march to a street party on Peachtree between 10th and 11th which the city had agreed to block off for the day. Many of the 1500 avoided the street and hung out in the bars instead.

The re-elected mayor made another step forward in 1985 with his proclamation for "Gay Pride Week in Atlanta." We became further visible in the city with the founding of Congregation Bet Haverim, M.A.C.G.L.O (Metropolitan Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations) and S.A.M.E. (Southeastern Arts Media and Education.) and the publication of ETC magazine. As the death toll from AIDS escalated, a community wide memorial service for all who have died of AIDS was added.

"Forward Together" in 1986, and it was together. The Pride organization was now a slickly oiled machine, even with added responsibility of planning for the Second National March on Washington. To spark interest, Kevin Berrill, anti-violence co-ordinator for NGLTF was keynote speaker. As hope for a cure increased, an AIDS Healing Service was held at the Cathedral of St. Philip as well as the Memorial Service at All Saint's. The John Howell Park Project was started as the first city park in the country to honor a man who had died of AIDS, and HRCF sponsored the picnic in the park. Coca-Cola initially offered two trailers for the event, but recanted when they found out it was a gay event, and sent un-logoed ice cream instead for the 2000 attendees.

As the death toll went over 20,000 in 1987 – including many of our leaders – and so many dedicating their time as caregivers, Pride took a back seat. Organization did not start until one month before, and still 500 faithful attended a rally on the steps of the Capitol.

Realizing the importance of Pride for the community, 1988 was "A Celebration of Life." The Pride Prom made its debut, and Channel 30 added programming on lesbian and gay issues. "I Am What I AM" was the theme song as 1000 marched from the Civic Center to Piedmont Park. Publicity for the event was also propelled by the launch of Southern Voice, a weekly newspaper, by Leigh VanderEls and Chris Cash.

The twentieth anniversary inspired the name "Stonewall-Reasons to Remember" in 1989. On Stage Atlanta joined the cultural line-up with "Fly High", a play about a PWA and his buddy. And, for the first time, Mayor Maynard Jackson appeared at the celebration in the park.

"Gay America Loves You!" proclaimed a billboard on the downtown connector seen by hundreds of thousands every day in the month of June 1990. The Atlanta Front Runners staged their first 5K run as part of the event. In contrast to that and the previous year's lack of speakers, fourteen people, but no mayor, gave speeches to the crowd of 5000 before the entertainment began at night.

In response to community feedback, all political speakers are banned from the stage in 1991, replaced by Lea Delaria as emcee of an all entertainment program. "Be Aware, Be There, Be Counted" was the slogan and it worked. Attendance took a quantum leap to 30,000, some of whom had participated in the first Commitment Ceremony in Winn Park, and the Pride Guide was born.

Comedians work, politicians don't – Mark Davis of San Francisco co-emceed with Lea Delaria for 1992's celebration, "Take Pride, Celebrate Your Individuality." Everyone brought a friend, and attendance doubled despite a few complaints about lack of political speakers and reported AIDS-phobic comments by one of the co-chairs. Our presence became even more visible with Emory University's opening of the

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Atlanta Pride
and Proud for Thirty Years

Office of Gay and Lesbian Student Life.

1993 marked significant advances but difficulties plagued the committee. The Dyke March became part of the official celebration, there was the first Leather Pride Celebration, and Latinos en Accion was founded. Not only did Mayor Maynard Jackson issue a proclamation, but Commissioners for Fulton County Michael Lomax and Martin Luther King, III issued one as well. Infighting within the organization resulted in Robbie Rogers resigning as co-chair months before the event claiming slander, and an event that ended in debt. Despite these problems, the calendar included great diversity of entertainment, education, politics, spirituality, and fun for 100,000 people for Family Reunion in the park on Saturday and the parade on Sunday. It was "Time to Tell America!"

The Pride Committee moved the event to the middle of June so people could also get to the Gay Games and Stonewall 25 in New York in 1994. The major events were Shannon Byrne, daughter of Cobb County Commissioner Bill Byrne, coming out publicly,

and a cooling rainshower that had 150,000 dancing and cheering in the mud.

On solid footing, in 1995 Pride hired its first paid part time Executive Administrator, Hubert Alexander. Honorary Marshall Phil Wilson, African American AIDS and Gay Rights activist lead off the march for 150,000 from the intersection of W. Peachtree and Peachtree Streets on Sunday after two days of festivities in Piedmont Park. After Pride, Hubert Alexander resigned due to health reasons, and co-chair for the year's event Donna Narducci was named Executive Administrator.

1996 was the year the entire planet was focused on Atlanta for the Centennial Olympic Games – much of the attention on the GLBT community due to the successful fight to remove Olympic events from Cobb County because of their anti-gay resolution. The myth of homophobia was dispelled by a group of people who at Mayor Bill Campbell's request opened The Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Visitor's Center at Center Stage with theatre productions, exhibits, medical facilities, GLAAD Media Center, communications center, and a cafe. Pride again

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Atlanta Pride
and Proud for Thirty Years

grows exponentially with 300,000 participants.

"Generations of Pride" in 1997 embraced the diversity of our culture- and also sent the message that we were grown up. Performers at pride that were formerly "ours" alone have become well known – most notably The Lady Chablis. Later in the year, Cathy Woolard became the first openly gay person elected to city office in Atlanta as Councilperson from the 6th District.

Pride grows again in 1998 with Donna Narducci named full time Executive Director. She hires a part-time Administrative Manager, and the three day event successfully continued its traditions. Now established as a global destination, in August the Hotlanta Softball League hosted the Lesbian and Gay World Series.

As the millennium approached in 1999, the slogan was "Prideful Past, Powerful future." the celebration grew with the Atlanta Pride Cultural Celebration for the entire month of June, and 300 Rainbow Banners along major thoroughfares in the city. Staff also grew with the addition of Trisha Clymore, Festival Director and Paul Gibson, Director of Finance and Administration. The rain and the mud did not deter 250,000 from celebrating. Indeed, the mud is termed "sacred ground"

And now, we celebrate this wonderful 30th anniversary.

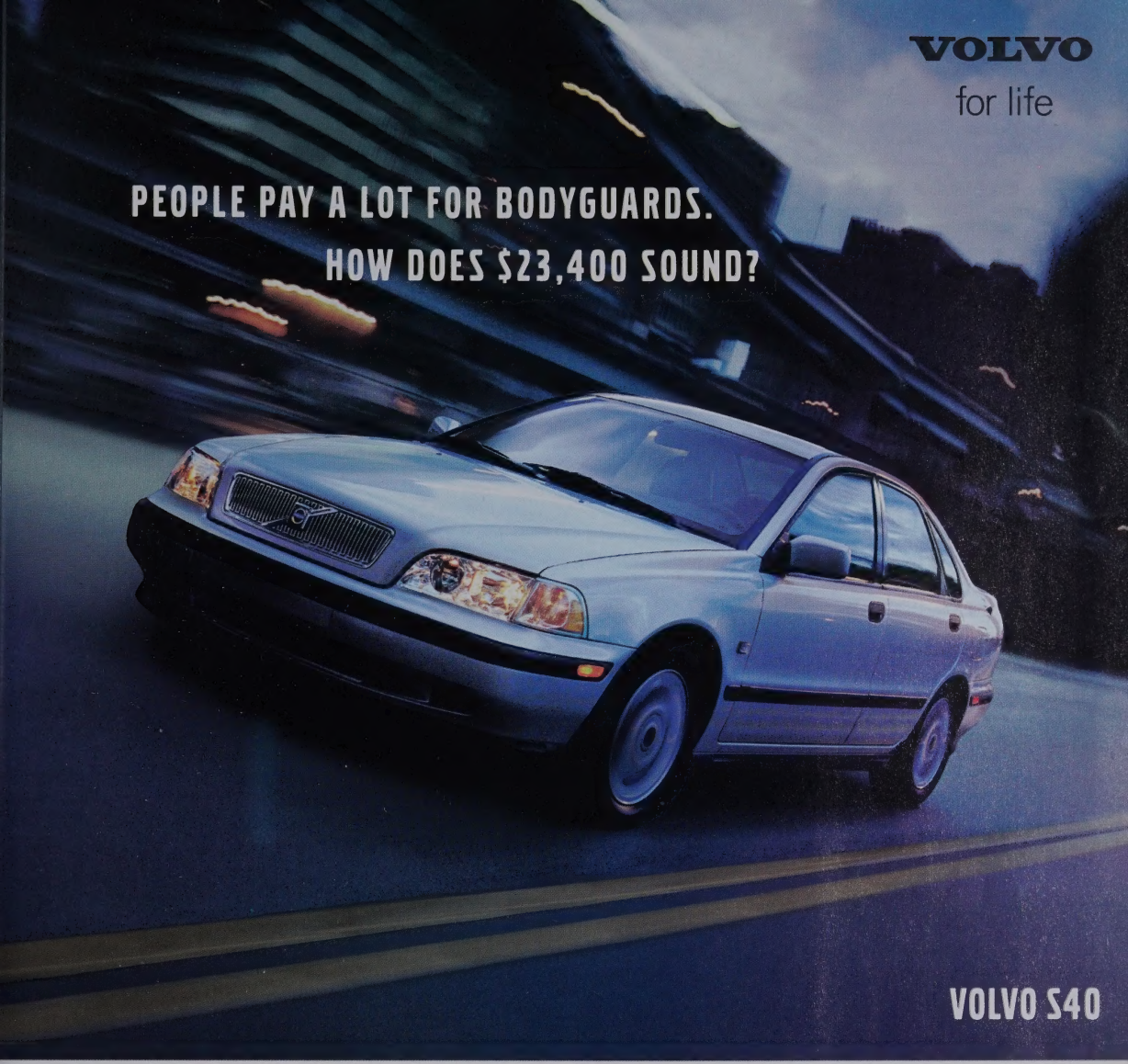
Thirty years. It is a long time by anyone's calendar. Our world – everyone's – is a radically different place than it was in 1970. We have had six Presidents; our country has been in three wars; the Berlin Wall, and later the Soviet Union have collapsed; communication has progressed from dial telephones to cellular connections and high speed Internet; there are worries over an ozone layer no one had even heard of; Apartheid has ended and Nelson Mandela has exchanged prisoner for President as title; Europe is now a community instead of a continent; an unknown virus in 1970 is infecting and killing millions all over the globe. And "The Ten Percent" is no longer invisible.

We have come far thanks to the inspiration of our ancestors at the Stonewall Inn, and our ancestors here who bravely – if scaredly – created our Pride. So, be Proud, and give thanks to them. We have moved the doors to our bars from the back of the building to the front. Many fewer are hiding, and we even have a "Coming Out Day" to celebrate that. We have struck down the sodomy law. Slowly but surely corporate America is reaching out to us, not only to get our dollars, but to offer benefits to our partners. Mainstream churches are at least in dialogue on a subject forbidden in the past. With every election, more and more openly gay and lesbian people take public office. There are legal unions for couples in Vermont. We're on prime time TV. And for these things we are Proud, and celebrate that for the entire month of June. There is no longer any doubt that we are a force to be reckoned with.

Our forebearers are certainly Proud. Of our fights and victories, of our collective battle to save our lives, and the risks that we take – both the baby steps and the quantum leaps. And most importantly, of our indomitable spirit.

Happy, Happy 30th Anniversary to all of us. As the old Southern saying goes, no matter what happens, we still have our PRIDE.

Bill Murphy is an Atlanta based writer, and is proud that he remembers most of this. When not in front of his Mac, he can be found gardening with his cat, Simon, and puppy, Hilda. He can be reached at SimDad@Bellsouth.net



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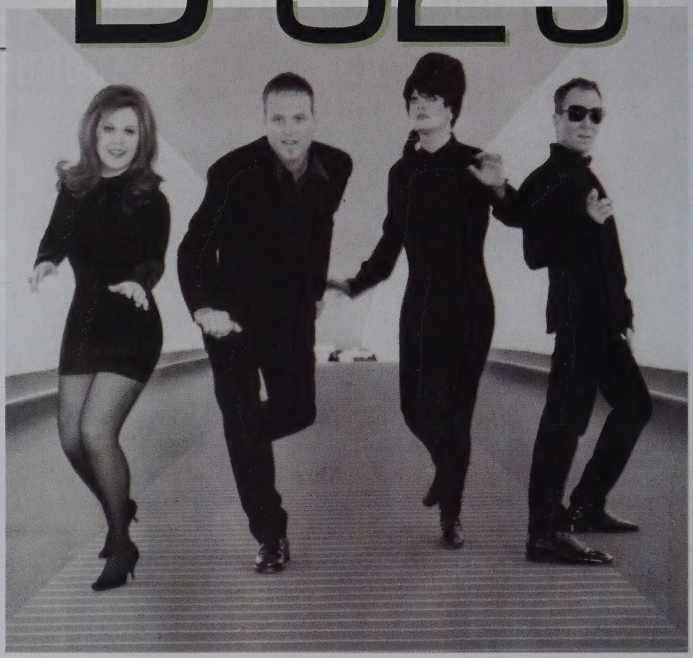
B-52's



A Satellite of Love Is Set to Land at Atlanta Pride 2000

By Chris Mabry

Wig, Bouncing Off The Satellites

To their legions of fans, the early days of the B-52's personified the "New Wave" musical movement of the 1980s, but the band didn't stop there: they are easily the greatest party band on the planet, and they are as quintessentially American as the Beach Boys. More than that, though, the B-52's provide their fans and listeners a daily affirmation and a social consciousness. "Maybe people are at last beginning to pick up on what we're doing and what we've been doing all along," said Keith Strickland in the late 1990's. "The underlying message of the B-52's is, 'it's okay to be different.'" That is perhaps what makes them so important today.

October 1976: the year of the United States' over-the-top Bicentennial celebration. In Georgia, some friends gather for drinks in a Chinese restaurant. What could those fortune cookies have said that led them to form a band that night? And what a band! As the group's official bio reads, "Twenty-(four) years and twenty million albums into a career that began as a low-rent lark in Athens, Georgia, the B-52's remain the most unlikely pop superstars ever. The first band to glorify pop culture with an almost Warholian sense of purpose, the B-52's purveyed their absurd B-movie style and off-kilter sound celebrating the weirdness lurking just beneath the surface of Americana – not exactly a recipe for chart success, but way ahead of its time, nonetheless." Accurate? Well, yes, albeit a bit deeper than the bulk of the B's music. The band is, after all, named for an exaggerated bouffant hairdo. How remarkably and completely Georgia!

Fred Schneider, Kate Pierson, Keith Strickland, and Cindy and Ricky Wilson began performing in low rent New York City clubs, including the legendary CBGB's, and appeared here in Atlanta at the Great Southeast Music Hall (now Lindbergh Plaza). Jack Tarver, owner of that venue, told the band "they should not give up their day jobs." What Tarver couldn't see in January of 1978 is what the B-52's, Blondie and other groups were creating: the soundtrack of the 80's, New Wave music.

We were at the beach,
Everybody had matching towels
Somebody went under a dock,
and there they saw a rock
It wasn't a rock,
It was a rock lobster!

Rock Lobster,
The B-52's

Success came relatively quickly for the B-52's; their first (self-titled) album included the garage-rock party classics "Rock Lobster," "Planet Claire" and "52 Girls". With the release of their second studio effort, 1980's Wild Planet, the B-52's proved that their success was no fluke, scoring hits with "Private Idaho," "Party Out Of Bounds" and "Strobelight." The group's thrift store aesthete, hallmark beehive hairdos and raucously fun music were making their mark on America in a big way; in the coming years the band released two more albums, took on arena concert tours and became staples of both MTV and alternative radio.

Cindy's gotta wig,
Ricky's gotta wig
Baby's gotta wig,
Kate's gotta wig
Fred's gotta cheap
toupee, Keith's gotta
big bouffant on
We all got wigs, so...
Let's go!

Walking out of Korvettes,
Package in her hand.
Motions to all the seabirds,
throws divinity on the sand.
I'll give you fish, I'll give you
candy, I'll give you everything
I have in my hand.
Give me, give back my man.

Give Me Back My Man, Wild Planet

At the time of their greatest achievement, however, they were to suffer their greatest tragedy – the death of guitarist Ricky Wilson from AIDS. The 1998 Official B-52's biography describes this period in the band's life:

"He really had a vision," said sister Cindy Wilson. "He was one of the strongest elements of the B-52's from the beginning." Wilson's passing in 1985 came just after the studio sessions for Bouncing Off The Satellites. The album, dedicated to Wilson, had taken nearly three years to complete and was worth the wait, serving up the favorites "She Brakes For Rainbows" and "Summer Of Love." Too heartbroken to promote the album as aggressively as they had in the past, the B'52's questioned their future in music.

That questioning lasted for almost three years of mourning, rest and reflection. Eventually, however, Keith Strickland assumed the responsibility of writing music for the group, and Keith, Kate, Fred and Cindy emerged from their hiatus in 1989 with the smash album Cosmic Thing. The album led to the band's first Top 40 hits, including both "Love Shack" and "Roam", and the band spent 18 months touring in support of the album. Shortly thereafter, Cindy Wilson parted ways with the band to pursue not a solo project, but a personal one; she and her husband became the proud parents of a shining baby girl.

The remainder of the band was not idle in Cindy's absence; in 1992 Fred, Keith and Kate produced the group's most overtly political album to date, the energetic Good Stuff. The band had long been involved in environmental, HIV/AIDS and animal rights causes, but rarely before had the B-52's expressed themselves so openly in their music. Nonetheless, and in typically surprising B-52's fashion, the band followed-up the socially-conscious Good Stuff with a completely apolitical 1994 cover of "Meet The Flintstones" for the big budget live action movie, and Cindy Wilson rejoined the band for the "Flinstone's Summer Tour".

The group next released a greatest hits package (Time Capsule: Songs for a Future Generation) that included two new songs;

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Summer 2000 B-52's Tour

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July 8 - Pittsburgh, PA - Star Lake
July 10 - Cincinnati, OH - Riverbend Music Theatre
July 11 - Chicago, IL - New World Music Theatre **
July 12 - Milwaukee, WI - Marcus Amphitheater
July 13 - Cleveland, OH - Blossom Music Center **
July 15 - Baltimore, MD - Merriweather
July 16 - Holmdel, NJ - PNC Bank Arts Center
July 17 - Camden (Phil.) - Blockbuster/ Sony Music Center
July 19 - Atlanta, GA - Lakewood Amphitheater **
July 21 - New York, NY - Jones Beach **
July 22 - Boston, MA - Fleet Boston Pavilion **
July 25 - Dallas, TX - Starplex
July 26 - Houston, TX - Woodlands**
July 28 - Denver, CO - Red Rocks**
July 30 - Reno, NV- Reno Amphitheater
July 31 - San Francisco, CA - Shoreline
August 2 - Concord, CA - Chronicle Pavilion**
August 3 - Los Angeles, CA - Greek Theatre
August 4 - Irvine, CA - Verizon Wireless Amphitheater **
August 5 - Las Vegas, NV - The Joint (B-52's only!)
August 6 - San Diego, CA - Coors Amphitheater

**** indicates B-52's close the show**

"Debbie", a tribute to Blondie's Debbie Harry (a gay icon in her own right) and "Hallucinating Pluto", another in the group's string of interstellar fantasies set to music. The band rounded out 1998 by joining the Pretenders for a three-month summer tour, and in 1999 Cindy Wilson took advantage of some down time for the group, giving birth to a son in July. Cindy and the band regrouped in September for PETA's (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) "Party Of The Century Concert", where the band appeared with the Pretenders and others on VH-1 as Paul McCartney presented Pamela Anderson-Lee the first lifetime achievement award in honor of his late wife, Linda.

The B-52's then returned home to Athens, GA on October 7, 1999 for a wildly successful benefit show at "Party Out Of Bounds", the AIDS Coalition of Northeast Georgia's annual fundraiser named after one of the group's most popular songs. For the hundreds who came from around the world and packed into the Athens Music Factory, it was truly a night to remember.

I'm headin' down the Atlanta highway,
lookin' for the love getaway
Heading for the love getaway,
love getaway.

Love Shack, Cosmic Thing

The year 2000 dawned with the B-52's performing at the Walt Disney World Pleasure Island New Year's Eve party, and this spring the band announced a summer tour with two other New Wave groups, the Go-Go's and Psychadelic Furs (see side bar for touring dates). Before that tour, however, the B's have agreed to play a hometown show, free, at Atlanta Pride's Thirtieth Anniversary celebration. Atlanta Pride Executive Director Donna Narducci says scheduling the appearance was difficult only due to the logistics of squeezing the show in before the tour; the desire of the band to appear was never in question. "I love the B-52's music," Narducci says, "and I'm thrilled that they are performing at Pride. The Atlanta Pride Committee welcomes them to the Showtime Networks stage for their performance Sunday, and we thank them for being a part of our 30th Anniversary Celebration!"

For the B-52's, their Pride appearance is an opportunity to once again support all their fans and, of course, to have a good time.

"We are delighted to be involved with such a significant organization as Pride," says vocalist, percussionist and Atlanta resident Cindy Wilson. "The B-52's have always been regarded as being out of the mainstream, and we embrace Pride's mission to show that every member of the community contributes to the good of the whole."

Wilson goes on to sum up what perhaps is best described as the life-long mission of the B-52's, saying "We hope that playing for Atlanta Pride will promote unity and self-respect, and will allow us all to have a great party!" Fred Schneider agrees, saying "We're out there to entertain people, but it's great to get people thinking and dancing at the same time."

Huggin' and a kissin', dancin' and a
lovin', wearin' next to nothing,
Cause it's hot as an oven,
The whole shack shimmies! The whole
shack shimmies when everybody's
Movin' around and around and around!
Everybody's movin',
everybody's groovin' baby!
Folks linin' up outside just to get down...

Love Shack,
baby Love Shack!
Love, baby, that's
where it's at!

Love, baby, that is indeed where the B-52's are at!

Find more about the B-52's online at:

http://www.b52s.net
The B-52's Net Connection

http://www.b52s.com
B-Hive, the B-52's fan club

http://www.b52s.com/party/
The Party Out Of Bounds event site

http://www.theb52s.com
The official record company site

Other sites of interest:
The AIDS Coalition of Northeast Georgia: http://www.uga.edu/~acng
Tour info and ticket sales: http://www.ticketmaster.com (click on "Music", then "B")
The Go-Go's official site: http://www.gogos.com
Go-Go's fan site: http://beam.to/stoptheworld

Chris Mabry is an Atlanta based web developer, writer, and corporate events producer.

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We're Musical!

By Bill Murphy

Long before "Queer" was chic, the word "Musical" was often used to describe gay people. It was safe to use openly in public- as in, "Is he musical?" Or, "He's extremely talented- musically." Given the creative talents that we are blessed with, the term is fitting.

Atlanta's gay community certainly is musically talented, with artists covering a broad spectrum of styles. Some have become big stars on the international scene, and even a big star has moved here part time. From cabaret to country; pop to punk, we've got it all.

Our first hometown boy, er, girl, oh- performer to make it big time is the incomparable RuPaul. In the late eighties, the Supermodel was performing all over town or dancing the night away at Weekends. We all knew that RuPaul was too big (tall?) a star for us to enjoy alone, and are glad to share him with the rest of the world.

Everyone knows our hometown girls who have taken the world stage – The Indigo Girls, Amy Ray and Emily Saliers. Friends since grade school in Decatur, they created The Indigo Girls in 1985. Seven million albums sold- one double platinum- and six Grammy nominations later, their unique folksy acoustic sound is better than ever. Yes, we should be proud of their musical achievements, but even greater have been their contributions to creating a better world. They still play high schools for youth to enjoy not only the music, but to hear their social message, and for queer youth to meet real role models. They have played concerts to benefit such causes as Earth Day, pro-choice, the IMF World Day Rally, Honor the Earth, and, of course, Atlanta PRIDE. They canceled concerts in South Carolina earlier this year in boycott of South Carolina flying the confederate flag. To find out more about them, check out www.indigogirls.com

This summer also celebrates the tenth anniversary of Daemon Records, the label that Amy Ray founded. Although the label has never made a profit, it has been a tremendous success with forty releases that otherwise might never have reached the public, covering a wide range of performers and styles, stressing politics and community over commercialism. When the day comes that Daemon makes a profit, it will be put into a foundation to promote the arts and artists.

Cabaret has been a favorite form of entertainment in Atlanta since the late sixties with such great clubs as Upstairs at Gene and Gabe's, Showcase Cabaret, and The Plush Room. Most of the production's themes are based on our favorite topics – as the success of the "Della's Diner" series proves sex and being Southern and all the possible combinations of the two. For the last few years, cabaret shows have been more focused at special events and fundraising efforts, but this summer debuts Libby Whittemore's new club, Libby's, on June 23 with many of our favorite veteran performers and great newcomers, so the scene will be alive and well again.

Classical music is also a big part of queer culture in Atlanta, and we certainly have our share of opera queens. The tremendous success of The Atlanta Opera under openly gay Artistic Director William Fred Scott is due in part to our community's support, expanding this year's performance schedule at The Fabulous Fox Theatre to:

Cosi fan Tutti: June 8, 10,& 11
Lucia de Lammermoor: September 14, 16,& 17
Turandot: October 26, 28,& 29

For further information, check out www.AtlantaOpera.org

We also have a gay opera club for the curious to the connoisseur – The Atlanta Opera Club (404-237-4218)

Athens, Georgia – Northeast of Atlanta and home of the University of Georgia – we now include in the metro Atlanta area. And a big reason for claiming Athens as our own is the band R.E.M. They've been around since 1980, and recorded their first album in 1982. Michael Stipe was one of the first rock stars to be Out and Proud, and proved that it doesn't ruin your career – in fact, he became even more of a sex symbol! The band's sound has changed over the years as they have experimented and grown in their

We're Musical!

craft, and no one can doubt that they have always been cutting edge. R.E.M. has also always given back to their community, especially with their dedication of time and talents to the Northeast Georgia AIDS Coalition. Good work, guys!

Also from Athens are the incomparable B-52's. Named for the outrageous hairdos of the late fifties and early sixties, their big hair and wild costumes are as fun and funky as their music. It's impossible to see and hear them without smiling and bouncing to the sound! Their success is undeniable with over twenty million albums sold, and Kate, Fred, Keith, and Cindy have become household names. Not bad for kids who started out working at a yogurt stand! And like our other local heroes, they have given much back to society. They have performed for Earth Day in Central Park, and support animal rights with PETA. They have been AIDS activists since the beginning, especially after the death of band member Ricky Wilson – Cindy's brother – of AIDS in 1985. And this month, they continue to support our community with their concert for Pride!

As exciting as it is to have members of our community make it big is to have some one big make this home. Elton John now calls Atlanta home some of the time – and even launched his and Tim Rice's musical "Aida" at the Alliance Theatre in preparation for its Broadway debut. We've discovered that Elton is just a regular guy, and it's not uncommon to run into him in the grocery store – but don't expect to see him in Elton drag! The retail economy in our city is grateful for his notorious shopping, and many of those purchases end up in charity auctions for AIDS organizations all over town, or benefits like "Elton's Closet" at Neiman Marcus. Elton has taken recycling to an entire new level! His appearances at events insure sold-out crowds raising even more money. We're proud to have Elton John choose Atlanta as home and to have him as a part of our community.

No Atlanta Pride celebration would be complete without attending the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus concert (www.AGMChorus.org). They've been performing during PRIDE month since 1982, and the shows keep getting bigger and better. This year's concert features music of the media, "Celluloid, Footlights, and Videotape" at the Rialto Theatre. Their repertoire of music of many periods and styles is legendary, and the cumulative sound of 120 tenor, baritone, and bass voices is awe inspiring. Also not to miss is their annual Christmas concert at the Cathedral of St. Philip. They are a great gift and credit not only to our community, but have reached along with the sister organization, The Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus, a wide audience as a positive example of what the gay community is.

Although not exactly an Atlanta group, disappear fear has performed at so many Pride celebrations and other events here that Sonia and Cindy Frank have become a part of our community. Sonia has of late been a solo act, but is staging her reunion with sister Cindy for PRIDE this year. And congratulations to Sonia from all of us for her GLAMA best acoustic/folk song award for "Me, Too."

Yes, we are musical. And there is so much more than what is said here. New performers are arriving on the scene all the time in small venues all over town - and many of them are great. Don't miss out on all the opportunities. You just never know who's going to be the next superstars. I remember a good friend dragging me to hear some friends of his who had just formed a band play in the late seventies – dressed up in strange clothes and big wigs. I'll get to hear them yet again at PRIDE.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Pride & Politics

Visibility Leads to Equality

By Cindy L. Abel

Harvey Milk is widely regarded as the first openly gay candidate to run for and win public office in the United States. Although it took him four attempts to be elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, one campaign tactic did not vary: he made no apologies for who he was or why he was seeking election.

In the now-famous "Hope Speech", Milk affirmed: "...there is a major difference, and it remains a vital difference, between a friend and a gay person, a friend in office and a gay person in office. Gay people have been slandered nationwide... it's not just enough anymore just to have friends represent us, no matter how good that friend may be... A gay official is needed not just for our protection, but to set an example for younger gays that says that the system works."

Twenty-three years after his election, over one hundred and fifty openly gay, lesbian, and bisexual officials are serving in public office ranging from small town commissions to U.S. Congress. They didnít reach their goals singlehandedly, however: in addition to the many organizations working to achieve civil rights for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people through education and lobbying efforts, several also endorse and support candidates with a demonstrated commitment to equality regardless of sexual orientation (and, in some cases, gender identity).

The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is the only national organization committed solely to increasing the number of openly gay and lesbian public officials at all levels of government. To fulfill their mission, Victory Fund recruits, trains, and provides qualified openly gay candidates with the financial and technical support they need to run winning campaigns. Endorsements are made on the basis of stringent criteria and a demonstrated ability to win.

Formed in 1991, the Victory Fund is the nation's 14th largest non-connected political action committee (PAC), has a membership of over 4,000 nationwide, and has generated more than

$2 million for qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates at all levels of government.

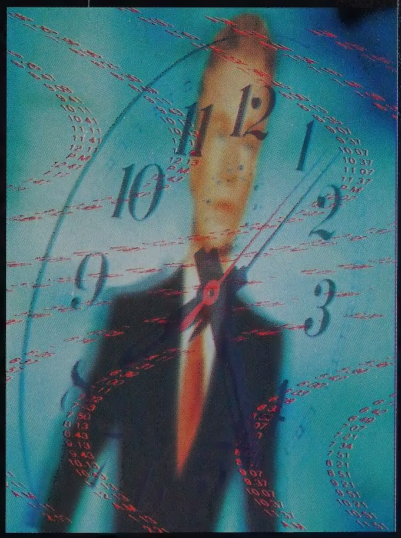
The Victory Fund is a bundling PAC which enables small donors to have a major impact in races. Members make contributions payable directly to the candidate's campaign, which Victory Fund bundles and sends to the campaigns as a massive show of community support.

Contact: Victory Fund: 202.842.8679, www.victoryfund.org

Human Rights Campaign

The Human Rights Campaign Political Action Committee (HRC-PAC) is a bipartisan political action committee that endorses candidates in federal races, such as President, Vice-President, U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. HRC-PAC will contribute over $1 million to fair-minded candidates for federal office in the 2000 elections. With input from local HRC members, community members and the HRC Public Policy Committee, the Board of Directors considers candidates' public stands and leadership on issues that affect gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Americans, as well as the anti-gay stands of their opponents. Viability is also an important factor as HRC only makes endorsements in races where candidates have proven their ability to win.

HRC also lobbies Congress and the Administration for public policy initiatives that promote equality and health for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and promotes education and research on those issues.



Contact: Human Rights Campaign/National: 800.777.4723, HYPERLINK www.hrc.org
Human Rights Campaign/Georgia: 770.368.2800, www.hrc-atlanta.org

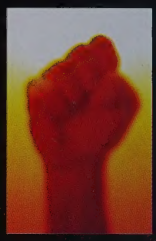
Log Cabin Republicans

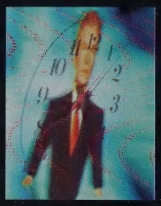
Log Cabin Republicans is the nation's largest gay and lesbian Republican organization, with over 50 chapters across the country, and a federal political action committee which raises $100,000 per election cycle for Republican candidates.

The mission of the Log Cabin Republicans is to work within the Republican Party for the equal rights of all Americans, including gay men and women, and is derived from a firm belief in the principles of limited government, individual liberty, individual responsibility, free markets and a strong national defense.

Log Cabin Republicans strategies are coordinated by the members and leadership of the national organization, as well as that of state and local clubs to secure full equality for gays but also to strengthen the Republican Party and to elect Republican candidates to public office.

Pride & Politics





Contact: Log Cabin Republicans/National: 202.347.5306, www.lcr.org
Log Cabin Republicans/Georgia: 770-521-8315, www.lcrga.com

National Stonewall Democratic Foundation
The National Stonewall Democratic Federation mobilizes voters through a national grassroots network of gay and lesbian Democratic clubs and individuals to advance the fight for gay and lesbian civil rights and improve the record of the Democratic party by pressing it further in the direction of full recognition of the right of gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals to be free from prejudice.

The National Stonewall Democratic Federation also works for the nomination of Democratic candidates who will be fully supportive of those rights and provides education on the difference between the two major parties on those issues, and on their belief in the importance of voting Democratic as the most effective way to achieve their goals.
Contact: National Stonewall Democratic Federation:202.783.8670, www.stonewalldemocrats.org
Georgia Stonewall Democrats: 404.978.1262/ext. 2201, e-mail: GSD@onebox.com

Georgia Equality Project
The Georgia Equality Project (GEP) is the political voice of Georgia's lesbian and gay community. GEP lobbies the legislature, trains citizen advocates, creates positive media exposure, endorses and supports candidates, and educates the public about gay issues.

On March 31, 2000, Governor Barnes signed the Anti-Domestic Terrorism Act (the hate crime bill) which provides for enhanced penalties for criminals who choose their victims "because of bias or prejudice." Upcoming efforts include legislation banning employment discrimination and seeking domestic partnership benefits in the workplace.

GEP-PAC endorses candidates who have met criteria relative to their views and public stands on issues pertaining to the civil rights of gays and lesbians and who demonstrate their ability to win.

Contact: Georgia Equality Project: 404.872.3600, www.gep.org

As these organizations work on local and national levels to educate the public about the need for full civil rights in all areas of life, strategies, tactics, and political beliefs vary. Each one, however, supports the concept of living one's life openly and honestly.

Like them, Harvey Milk believed that the only way to truly achieve equality in society, beyond legislation, was for gays and lesbians to make themselves visible:

"Like every other group, we must be judged by our leaders and by those who are themselves gay, those who are visible. For invisible, we remain in limbo, a myth, a person with no parents, no brothers, no sisters, no friends who are straight, no important positions in employment. A tenth of our nation is supposedly composed of stereotypes and would-be seducers of children. But today, the black community is not judged by its friends, but by its black legislators and leaders.

"And we must give people the chance to judge us by our leaders and legislators. A gay person in office can set a tone, can command respect not only from the larger community, but from the young people in our

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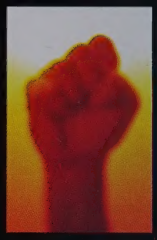
Pride & Politics



own community who need both examples and hope."

The number of openly gay and lesbian elected officials nationwide- 46 in 1991 – has more than tripled by 2000. There are currently seven serving in public office in Georgia.

Alfred Fowler, Mayor of Pine Lake.
Alfred Fowler, originally from Monroe, North Carolina, moved to Pine Lake in 1995. He and his partner Gene Kiernan relocated from Los Angeles in order to be close to family members living in the Atlanta area.

He was elected to Pine Lake City Council two years later and began serving as Mayor in 1998. Fowler has been recognized by the Georgia Human Relations Commission for his leadership in applying principles of fairness, justice, and sensitivity while upholding the law.

Fowler is a member of the DeKalb County NAACP, the DeKalb County Democratic Party, and the Human Rights Campaign. He is currently involved in addressing issues such as the Georgia state flag and legislation regarding racial profiling.

He earned a B.A. in Political Science and Economics from North Carolina State University, and is involved in retail management.

Lisa Hudson, Pine Lake City Councilmember.
Lisa Hudson moved from Mississippi to the Atlanta area at the age of five and began serving her first term as an elected official in January 2000, having run without opposition.

One of the facilitators of the original support group that became YouthPride, Hudson also volunteered extensively with Altercare, an organization devoted to providing alternative care for people with AIDS.

She holds an M.S. in Counseling from Georgia State University, and recently retired from private practice and work with counseling agencies to start an antique restoration and estate liquidation business.

Hudson's partner, Cathy Cutler, is an artist specializing in ceramics and furniture design.

Charles Rountree, Pine Lake City Councilmember.
Charles Rountree is originally from Alabama and has lived in the Atlanta area for over 20 years. Raised in a political family, he has worked on campaigns in Alabama and Georgia, and was elected in November 1999 without opposition to fill a vacant seat with an unexpired term.

A member of the Human Rights Campaign and Vice President of his neighborhood association, Rountree serves on the Citizens' Panel Review of the Juvenile Court of DeKalb County and is the Finance Chair of his parish church, the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Decatur.

Rountree holds a B.A. in Accounting from Georgia State University and is an accountant with onestop.com, which specializes in business-to-business e-commerce.

Cathy Woolard, Atlanta City Councilmember.
Cathy Woolard comes from a long-time Atlanta family with roots in Decatur and the Emory University area. She is serving her first term on the Atlanta City Council as representative to District 6, having been endorsed by the Victory Fund and Georgia Equality Project PAC. In May 2000, she announced her decision to run for Atlanta City Council President.

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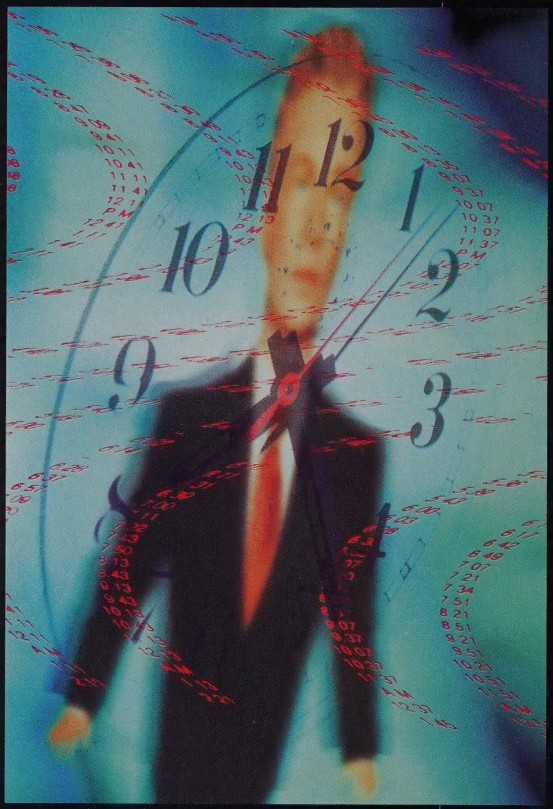
Pride & Politics



Woolard is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate from the University of Georgia, with a B.A. in psychology with a minor in German language. Soon after graduating, she became a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Micronesia, and has also served as the Human Rights Campaign National Field Director.

Woolard chairs the Atlanta City Council Transportation Committee and serves on the Public Safety and Finance committees. She is a member of the Midtown Blueprint Transportation Subcommittee and the Intergovernmental Relations Committee for the Georgia Municipal Association, Second Vice President of the Gay and Lesbian Municipal Elected Officials Committee, and represents Georgia on the Community and Economic Development Committee at the National League of Cities. She is also involved in the Piedmont Park and Freedom Park Conservancy activities, and an active member of the Candler Park Neighborhood Association, the Human Rights Campaign, the Georgia Equality Project and the Atlanta Executive Network. Woolard and her partner, Karen Geney, live in Candler Park, where she works as a public policy and community affairs consultant.

Other officials include East Point City Councilmember Bobby Carnes, Decatur Commissioner Kecia Cunningham, and East Point City Councilmember Alex Prince, who were not available for interview.

Sources include elected officials and organizational leaders and information drawn from organizations' websites.

Cindy L. Abel has been involved in local and national politics, including service on the Board of the Victory Fund and Board of Governors of the Human Rights Campaign, and as Executive Director of Stonewall Cincinnati and Georgia Equality Project. She is the owner of Real World Communications, a public relations and political consulting firm, and may be reached at HYPERLINK "mailto:clabel@real-world-usa.com" clabel@realworld-usa.com or 404.522.5040.

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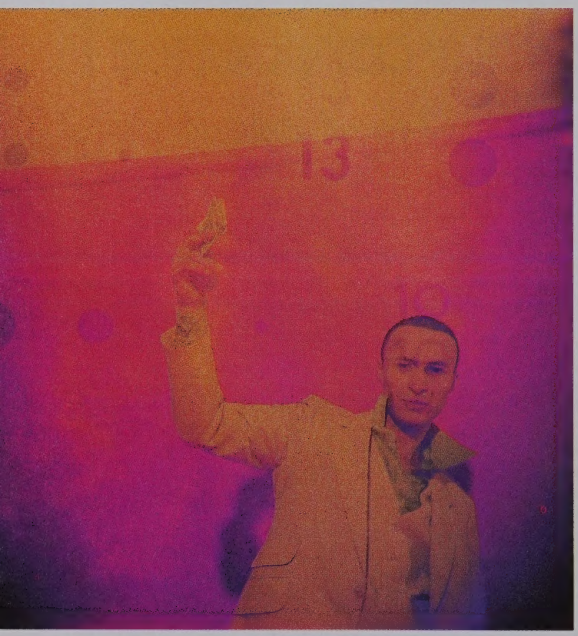
The PINK Dollar

By Cindy L. Abel



Some people estimate that gays and lesbians make up 3% of the United States' population, while the 10% figure is most often used as a reference.

Some statistics say the tangible assets of gays and lesbians exceed $800 billion, while research varies from claims of the average gay and lesbian income being less or comparable to that of average heterosexual income, to readership studies seeming to indicate they actually earn close to 150% of their straight counterparts.

Regardless of the debate and how the numbers are used or misused by marketers and politicians for their own purposes, one thing is certain: no matter how much gays and lesbians do or do not earn, there are folks poised to help them invest their money and reach their financial goals.

Some are new, and capitalize on the advent of technology and the touted higher percentage of online users among gay and lesbian computer owners than general computer users in the U.S. Others work with firms who have adapted their services to meet the specific needs of this community, while others still are more independent and making their own choices about which clients to pursue.

On the Internet, two companies are particularly notable: gfn.com - the Gay Financial Network -, and the Gay & Lesbian Internet Bank, not only for having recognized the role the internet plays in the lives of gays and lesbians, but also for the uniqueness of the product they each offer.

gfn.com was launched in April 1998, and states its purpose as "to empower the community by building the first gay and lesbian virtual financial services community." It is currently known as being the only website dedicated to this type of mission as well.

In addition to articles ranging from financial planning, stock market analysis, updates on corporations' employment and domestic partner policies, and commentary on gay-targeted advertising, gfn.com offers virtual town meetings where members can discuss their experiences and perspectives regarding gay-specific and general financial matters. gfn.com also presents a referral service providing members a list of financially-related professionals in their area. The Gay Financial Network can be accessed at www.gfn.com.

The G & L Internet Bank was founded because of the discrimination that many gays and lesbians have reported experiencing when attempting to secure a loan or access other services, and the desire to offer a choice that can be accessed by anyone on the internet, unrestricted by geographic boundaries.

The mission of the G & L Internet Bank is "to create a respectful, comfortable, discrimination-free bank" for all their customers, gay and non-gay. Part of fulfilling that mission involves offering mortgages, consumer and small business loans, and basic services such as checking accounts. Only products and services from companies with non-discrimination and equal opportunity policies inclusive of sexual orientation are used and recommended. The G & L Internet Bank can be found at www.glbank.com.

For those times when only a face-to-face meeting will do, several Atlanta-area financial advisors concentrate on meeting the needs of gays and lesbians.

While all but one of the planners who agreed to be interviewed identify as gay or lesbian, there seemed to be a marked shift – or at least the

The PINK Dollar

beginnings of one – in this traditionally conservative industry. Guy Giumento, who assisted with research for this article, comments: "Overall, the companies seemed matter-of-fact and not caught off guard when I would ask if they offered services specifically to gays and lesbians. It speaks to the corporate culture when even the staff answering the phones didn't seem uncomfortable with the question."

A couple of the people however, Giumento added, replied that sexual orientation "isn't an area I ask about," or "we don't pry," revealing at least a lack of knowledge or sensitivity to the very real needs that heterosexual, married couples don't face.

Tony Pruitt, who provides financial planning and investment advice through A.G. Edwards, wonders: "How could I help someone meet their financial goals if I don't really know who they are – or even what their goals truly are?" In other words, if you can't tell your financial planner you want your assets to go directly to your partner should something happen to you, they're not going to be able to give you the advice you need to ensure that happens.

Some of the needs lesbian and gay couples face are a result of the inability to legally marry, hence preventing them from receiving certain protections that are automatically bestowed upon spouses. "Two people might pay the mortgage on their home, yet if one passes away, the other's family may sometimes make a case for claiming that property – it's not enough just for both to be on the mortgage," explains Burt Banks, of American Express Financial Advisors, referring to the critical need for a will detailing the distribution of assets.

In addition to naming one's partner as beneficiary on a life insurance policy, "what about stocks, 401Ks and any other plans?" reminds Pruitt. "What happens if the breadwinner is incapacitated or dies and the remaining partner cannot afford to pay the mortgage on his or her own?" Knowing the relationship and goals of those who are planning allows advisors to give their best counsel to prepare for potential crises - such as disability and long-term care insurance - as well as when in the midst of a health crisis, when viaticating one's life insurance policy might provide the best solution for relief.

"Even in the most cordial relationships between family members and partners, things can get strange when money or life-decisions are involved," agrees Banks. "Partnered as well as unpartnered folks need to have living wills, power of attorney - legal documents that can make their wishes clear."

All of these questions need to be addressed and carefully considered as part of a well thought-out plan. Jennifer Thompson, of SalomonSmithBarney cautions: "Don't wait, thinking you'll deal with it later. The earlier you start, the easier it gets to be disciplined and follow-through on a thoughtful plan. The longer you wait, the more you have to do to try and catch up."

Some financial steps might seem basic, yet Lisa Clark, an independent agent with Fortis, believes they deserve the same attention as managing large accounts: "I have a client who wanted advice on saving for a home so she could work her way out of the projects. I respect that. I'll consult with anyone who's interested – everyone deserves access to the same advice and opportunities, regardless of their current financial status."

Once you decide it's time to create your own future, how do you find the right planner for you?

Part of choosing an advisor involves making sure you feel comfortable enough with them to share your dreams, your goals, and yes, any secrets you may have tucked away. For Jennifer Thompson of SalomonSmithBarney, that means she needs to be honest as well in order to set the proper tone. "If I'm not truthful about who I am, I can't help my clients be truthful with me. And they need to be if they're going to do things the right way and protect themselves and their families. We're not all DINKs (Dual Income, No Kids) anymore, we need to focus on the real and special issues."

Burt Banks, at American Express Financial Advisors, shares a similar commitment: "I want to help my community achieve their goals, including financially. We have specific, unique needs and being able to share common experiences brings a special quality to our interactions."

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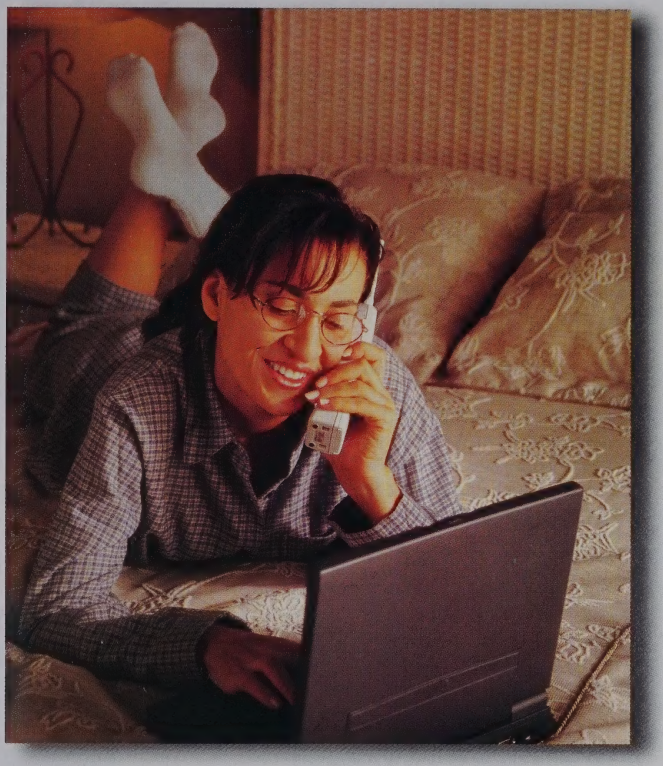

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The PINK Dollar

Being female, suggests Clark, also brings a certain sensitivity: "Although women typically earn less, live longer, and therefore need to save more, they tend to be underserved by financial professionals. I want to change that, and to involve them in the planning process in a way they feel comfortable so they can determine their own destiny."

Lee Vaughn, with Prudential Securities, describes his reasons for offering services to gays and lesbians: "I had moved to Midtown and started making friends. I realized that many of my gay friends were underserved when it came to financial planning, and decided I could do something about that in a positive way, so introduced Prudential to the gay community in Atlanta."

Before identifying a particular planner, some prefer to first examine the social attitudes and practices of the companies with whom advisors are affiliated. Vaughn describes a gay-focused product: "Prudential is one of only a few firms to offer an investment tool such as the 'Lambda Strategy.' This managed portfolio only invests in companies that have policies in place that are inclusive of gays and lesbians."

And while each of the advisors interviewed said their company allowed them to choose which communities and clients they desired to work with, two firms have made specific efforts to demonstrate their commitment to equality not only to potential clients but to their staff or agents as well.

American Express Financial Advisors is widely considered a pioneer as pertains to gay and lesbian issues, being among the very first to offer anti-discrimination protections for employees as well as domestic partnership recognition and benefits. Their visible support of events and organizations "for so many years is a demonstration of their commitment," comments Banks, "which has also given us the freedom to be all of who we are as advisors. We can apply our firm's i n-depth experience on strategies for meeting gay and lesbian needs to benefit and better serve our clients."

While not as renown as a "gay-friendly firm," SalomonSmithBarney is making significant strides. According to Thompson, who first approached her local and national supervisors with trepidation when seeking approval of her first ad to be placed in a gay publication. "It's not an issue now. It was mainly my own stuff, because I didn't know how things would go. Most people mainly care about how you do your job anyway, even in this still-conservative industry." The firm has a formal diversity program that is inclusive of sexual orientation, a gay and lesbian employees group, and will be offering domestic partner benefits by July 2000.

While many of the services the firms and affiliated advisors offer are similar, and it often comes down to personal relationships, all of them agree: make a plan! Ask for help, be open and honest with your planner, take care of the legal issues necessary to insure your wishes are respected, and then implement the plan.

The financial advisors interviewed were:
Burt Banks, American Express Financial Advisors: 404.237.9229
Lisa Clark, Fortis:
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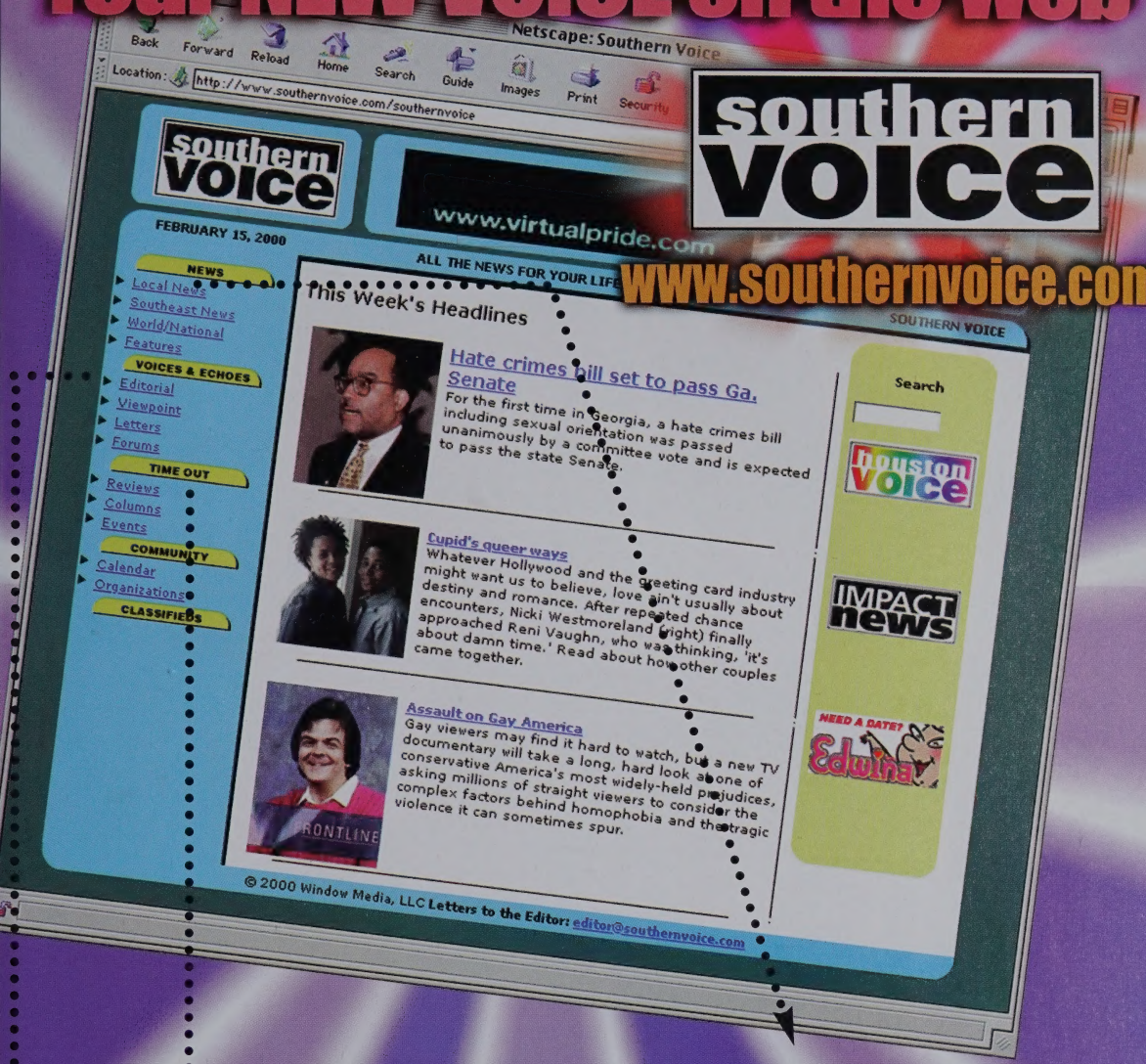
Jennifer Thompson, SalomonSmithBarney: 770.399.7441
Lee Vaughn, Prudential Securities: 404.842.9246

EDITOR'S NOTE: References to individuals and organizations in this article do not imply recommendation or endorsement by The Atlanta PRIDE Committee.

Cindy L. Abel is the owner of Real World Communications, a public relations firm specializing in assisting businesses seeking to reach gays and lesbians.
She may be contacted at:
clabel@realworld-usa.com.

Your NEW VOICE on the web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This Week's Headlines
SOUTHERN VOICE
Hate crimes bill set to pass Ga. Senate
For the first time in Georgia, a hate crimes bill including sexual orientation was passed unanimously by a committee vote and is expected to pass the state Senate.
Cupid's queer ways
Whatever Hollywood and the greeting card industry might want us to believe, love ain't usually about destiny and romance. After repeated chance encounters, Nicki Westmoreland (right) finally approached Reni Vaughn, who was thinking, 'it's about damn time.' Read about how other couples came together.
Assault on Gay America
Gay viewers may find it hard to watch, but a new TV documentary will take a long, hard look at one of conservative America's most widely-held prejudices, asking millions of straight viewers to consider the complex factors behind homophobia and the tragic violence it can sometimes spur.
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THE ITE

By Chris Mabry

The Internet began around 1969 or around 1975, depending upon whom you ask. Created by the Pentagon to enhance national security in case of a nuclear attack, the computer network was designed like a spider web spreading across the country so that information could still flow even if half the network were destroyed (hence the name, made popular later, World Wide Web). This was the beginning of ARPAnet, the first piece of the Internet. It's ironic that we owe the commercialization of the Internet to the collapse of the Soviet Union. Why? With the passing of the major nuclear war threat, the government did not really need it any more and opened access.

In the late 70s the Internet was almost purely experimental (but then personal computers were, too!). With an account on a large government or university computer users could, in a crude fashion, connect to other computers via the network and share information. It was generally very slow and included no graphics. It was not until the early 1980s that the Internet really began to catch on. Those who used the Internet were still mostly academics (including students) and government types, and It was popular mainly for its' e-mail, news groups, and file transfer capabilities. There was little, if any, commercial activity.

Then, a few years ago, some people at the European Particle Physics Laboratory were looking for a way to share information; the result was the World Wide Web (or WWW, or W3). No one there envisioned what we have today. With the development of the WWW and the advent of the Apple Macintosh's Graphical User Interface (GUI), users became able to point and click to do things, and could see graphics and photos. (I still recall dialing into the Atlanta Constitution's network in 1992 to read the scrolling text of the newspaper.) In the early 1990s America Online came into being, and along with Compuserve and Prodigy were the first nationwide online services. In the mid 1990s these services gave their users access to the WWW, and before long web pages could even have sound or animation attached to them.

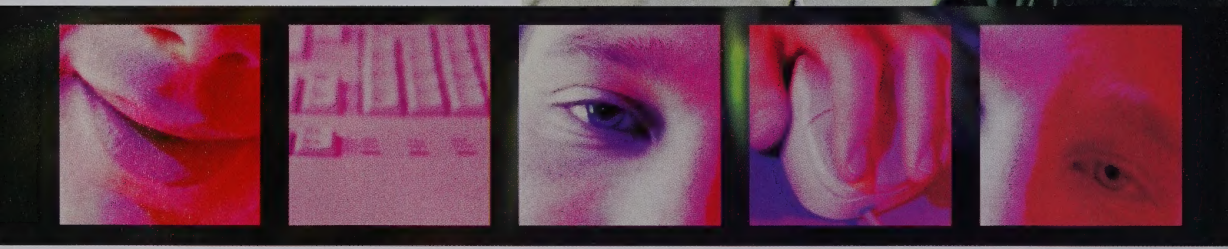
In short order, the Internet became cool. The media discovered there was something new and novel to talk about, businesses began connecting their local area networks (LANs) in order to make their companies more competitive and to increase productivity, and the rest you now know. Today there are over 50 million people using the Internet around the world, the Internet is the fastest growing area of our economy, and it is the fastest growing human endeavor in history.

So, who owns the Internet? That's one of the coolest things about the Internet – no one does! The Internet is made up of a more or less un-moderated group of people with computers who want to share information. Your access provider does not own a piece of the Internet, they merely control access to the Internet, somewhat like a gatekeeper - they let you in, they let you out, but they don't own the bridge. Companies that host web sites own the computers those sites reside upon, but the sites themselves can be easily moved or replaced. Telephone companies and increasingly Cable companies own the wires, and other major companies own or rent the switches, but it is the nature of a web that there are endless ways to get around missing wires or blockages.

The gay community is generally far more connected and Internet savvy than the bulk of the heterosexual community. The nature of the Internet is such that distance is irrelevant; wherever you are, information on the World Wide Web is never more than a click away. This made the web popular first and foremost among those who are disenfranchised from mainstream society, either as a result of social minority status or as a response to illnesses and diseases.

Like those with cancer and other less common illnesses, the AIDS community saw early in the Internet's existence its possibility as a tool to quickly and anonymously exchange or acquire treatment information worldwide. This was especially valuable in the early stages of the AIDS pandemic, when many small town physicians treated patients with HIV/AIDS reluctantly if at all. No matter the ignorance or fear of a patient's hometown physician, web sites and news groups crammed with information give patients some degree of control over their care no matter where they were; all they needed was access to the Internet. Many would, in fact, say that this use of the Internet to exchange medical information and treatment options has forced Medical Practitioners and the mainstream media to [illegible] about these previously ignored [illegible] cussed illnesses. Cancer and [illegible] longer words that must be [illegible] and few people remain [illegible] edge of treatment [illegible] HIV/AIDS resources [illegible] (http://www.[illegible].com), [illegible] sites and information that [illegible] hourly. Also [illegible] and HIV direct [illegible] (http://www.[illegible] the web site of POZ Magazine (www.poz.com), a monthly publication dedicated to improving the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS and almost completely available online along with back issues.

No matter what you may seek on the World Wide Web, search engines are an obvious place to start. The Internet today is [illegible] with general search engines including "Snap" and "Google", but there [illegible] excellent gay search engines. GayScape (http://www.gayscape.com) among the best, with [illegible] dividing gay culture [illegible] reviews of many of the [illegible] list. GayScape is [illegible]



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recreational web surfing. Following a similar format is PrideLinks (www.pridelinks.com), a division of QWorld. Not as well organized as GayScape, Pridelinks does offer a pair of unique features: counters display a running tally of visitors who have clicked on a listing, and you have the option of returning to the Pridelinks listings to rate the site you have just visited. Our third choice among the best gay search engines, Rainbow Queery (www.glweb.com) follows a more traditional path with a design very much like that of Yahoo!; type in search criteria and click "go" for hundreds of results or browse the categories for a more leisurely search – your choice! Rainbow Queery is a part of GLWeb,

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an ezine light on original content, and bills itself as the first and most comprehensive gay search engine out there.

The Internet is also a business and financial tool. Online banking services, investment companies and day trading firms are popping up at an astonishing pace. It's no matter where a homosexual may live he or she is only a mouse click away from proudly using a "Gay Bank", the best known of which to date is probably GLBank.com (http://www.g-lbank.com). GLBank offers everything one would expect from a real bricks and mortar bank including personal accounts, mortgages, auto loans and limited financial counseling. GFN, the Gay Financial Network (http://www.gfn.com), offers gay oriented investment advice, financial news, stock quotes and more. If you're shopping for a new home, visit GFN and get your finances in order first, then apply for your loan at GLBank and once you're approved head to Crossroads Relocation (www.crossroadsrelocation.com), Pride Realty (http://www.priderealty.com) or Rainbow Referrals (http://www.rainbowreferrals.com) to shop online! Services include for-sale listings and referrals to gay & lesbian agents nationwide.

As much as the web is a tool, it is also a toy. Sexually explicit sites appealing to every imaginable fetish (and some unimaginable ones) abound; in fact, they are virtually unavoidable. These are all too easy to find, and we'll let you do that on your own. Aside from sex, you can use the web to keep up with popular culture, read the latest gay news from the comfort and privacy of your own home, plan your next gay get-away, shop for a new outfit to wear at this year's Pride celebration and more.

There are a number of web sites devoted to gay culture and our everyday lives; among the most popular are GAY.com (http://www.gay.com) and PlanetOut (http://www.planetout.com), the web site of Out magazine, now co-owned by the Advocate. Both sites follow a magazine-style format of brief articles spanning a range of subjects, in-depth reports, travel suggestions, celebrity profiles and more. Gay.com also includes a wide range of chat rooms where you can meet and greet other queers from around the globe, and both also feature personals sections for those seeking something a little more formal than hot and heavy one-handed chat room typing. PlanetOut has an especially comprehensive collection of news articles relevant to the G/L/B/T communities, not surprising given their traditional media background. For women and transgendered, QWorld is probably the top choice (www.qworld.com) although gay men are certainly not excluded. Visit QWorld for original content that includes personals, features, cartoons and message boards.

Also worthy of note in the "Culture and Lifestyle" category is GayWired (www.gaywired.com). An independent "ezine" (electronic magazine), GayWired offers all the normal content you would expect, including features, news and entertainment profiles. Beyond the normal content, though, GayWired also offers webcasts and is home to "Edwina", everyone's favorite matchmaking Aunt and advice columnist for lovelorn queers everywhere. Definitely worth checking out. And speaking of webcasts, stop by Chicago's own LesBiGay Radio (www.lesbigayradio.org). Their programming airs live Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Central time on two radio stations in Chicago and the Internet, and is archived on the Internet from 8 p.m. central for 30 minutes before the next broadcast. Programs often include the day's news, queer music, special guests, and often a toll free number you can call to participate in contests during the broadcast.

One of the Web's strong points has always been community, and there is no shortage of gay and lesbian offerings to get you on your way. QT Magazine (www.qtmag.com) is an online gay and lesbian travel magazine worth your time. Features in each monthly issue include profiles of selected cities, travel fashion tips, personality profiles and more. Best of all, there are two options for finding the information you need; an easy site search will comb back issues for you, or you can select and browse previous issues in their entirety, and the site is free! Out and About (www.outandabout.com) is among the best known and has recently merged with PlanetOut. Unfortunately, we can't highly recommend them; among other things, most of their content must be purchased, and they are still recommending the long-closed "Prince George Inn" as an Atlanta must-visit.

If your destination is already decided, we would suggest using a search engine such as Rainbow Queery or Pridelinks to find local city guides, another type of web site in which the gay community seems to lead the way. A word of caution, though: never rely on a single local site, as updates may be few and far between and information can be very dated. In preparing this article we visited six gay City Guides for Atlanta as a test, and would recommend only two of the six.

"The Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Visitor's Center" (www.ontapatlanta.com/glvc or come.to/gayatlanta) is the web site originally from the physical Center, created for and operated during the Centennial Olympic Games in 1996. Online since then, the Center's site is a bit simplistic in design but offers complete bar, organization, shopping and restaurant listings, an events calendar and an amazing collection of Atlanta g/l/b/t links; all updated weekly. "THE Guide to Gay Atlanta" (www.gayguides.com/atlanta) was born out of a site created in 1997 on Emory University servers ("Richard & Jeremy's Guide to Gay Atlanta"), and is likewise comprehensive and frequently updated. A little lighter than the AGLVC site on community groups, a little heavier on bar listings, our only complaint would be the download-intensive design style.

Of the other Atlanta Gay Guides we visited, several referred to Club Menergy as a current bar of choice (closed 2 years ago?), one was a blank page, and one contained bits and pieces of content from the two sites we have recommended above. Our "Hall of Shame" winner? A "national" site (that shall remain unnamed) earnestly recommending the Cove as Atlanta's only late night dance bar, the Gallus as Atlanta's best gay restaurant and the Bar on Peachtree as the best place to hangout. They have all been closed how long? I wish I had imagined that site, but it really is out there!

You can find every link referenced in this article (and throughout this edition of the official Atlanta Pride Guide) online at geocities.com/PrideGuide2000 (www.geocities.com/prideguide2000), So fire up your PC or Mac, point your browser to that web page and click and go!

Chris Mabry is an Atlanta based web developer, writer, and corporate events producer working to support his dog in the style to which she has become accustomed. He can be reached at soundboy@aol.com.

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THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Atlanta Pride **Related Events**

PEARL DAY Y2K THRILLENNIUM WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 ALL DAY
Location: Six Flags Atlanta
A benefit for the children's programs of AID Atlanta, Montgomery AIDS Outreach, AID Upstate of Greenville, and The Sue Kuhlen Camp for Kids of Columbia.
Join the fun at Six Flags, purchase your pearls at Brushstrokes, Outwrite, Backstreet, or AID Atlanta (purchase of pearls does NOT include admission to Six Flags)
For more info call 404/ 870-7733 or visit www.pearlday.com

INTEGRITY ATLANTA'S HUMAN RIGHTS EUCHARIST THURSDAY, JUNE 22 AT 7:30pm
Location: All Saints Episcopal Church
Sponsored by Integrity Atlanta, the lesbian/gay justice ministry of the Episcopal Church.
The preacher for the service will be the Rev. Marion Kanour, AssistantRector for mission and evangelism of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Atlanta. The Rev. Barry Griffin, Rector of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Morrow, GA will preside at the Eucharist. Both are "our" priests in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. This service is open to everyone and all are welcome.

COMMITMENT CEREMONY FRIDAY, JUNE 23 AT 7pm
Location: Pride Festival site in the Special Events Tent
Co-Sponsored by Atlanta Couples Together, 404/ 365-2455
This non-denominational ceremony gives couples the opportunity to pledge their commitment to each other publicly before friends and family and is a powerful statement about each participating couple's relationship and devotion to each other.

Couples should arrive to the special events tent at the festival site by 6:30pm to pre-register. Participating couples will receive a certificate following the ceremony, and a reception will follow. For more information, please call Atlanta Couples Together at 404/ 365-2455

AIDS VIGIL FRIDAY, JUNE 23 AT 8:30pm
Location: John Howell Park in Virginia Highland
Co-Sponsored by AIDS Survival Project, 404/ 874-7926
This candlelight vigil will combine music, readings, and speakers to acknowledge the impact of the AIDS pandemic on all members of our community.

The evening promises to be an opportunity to cherish the memories of loved ones and celebrate the everyday people whose strength and commitment have brought hope to us all. For more information please call AIDS Survival Project at 404/ 874-7926

Dance OUT! FRIDAY, JUNE 23 AT 10PM
Location: St. Mark's UMC 781 Peachtree Street 10pm - 2am
Are you under 21 and looking for a party you can get in to? Well, the Atlanta Pride Committee, YouthPride, and St. Mark's have the answer for you. They are sponsoring a fierce party for youth 13 - 24! We've got the hottest DJ, best light and sound, and super selection of house, dance, jungle, r&b, and hip hop music. Best thing is it's FREE! So bring your friends and come enjoy the party. For more information please call 404/ 873-2636

INVESTING IN YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE SATURDAY, JUNE 24 AT 11 AM
Location: Pride Festival Site near the Market Stage
Sponsored by A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.
Led by financial advisors Suzy Feinberg and Tony Pruitt, this seminar tells you everything you ever wanted to know about investing, but were afraid to ask and will be an open discussion to help you expand your investing options. Questions and answers on financial planning and basic investment concepts will be addressed.

RE-DEFINING "FAMILY" SATURDAY, JUNE 24 FROM 10 AM - 12 NOON
Location: Special Events Tent near the Children's Kamp
Sponsored by the Youth and Family Outreach Committee of APC
Join us for these panel discussions that will focus on adoption, and alternative ways of having a family. These discussions were very popular last year, so we're offering them again this year!

5K PRIDE RUN/WALK 2000 AT GRANT PARK SATURDAY, JUNE 24 AT 7am
Location: Grant Park
Sponsored by FrontRunners 770/ 621-5007 or www.FrontRunnersAtlanta.org
This 10th annual event will benefit the Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative, Positive Impact, PFLAG Atlanta, and Team Atlanta. Registration fee $15/advance, $20 day of event. Register online, or mail in an application (available at many stores around town). For more information, call FrontRunners 770/ 621-5007.

NAMES PROJECT QUILT DISPLAY SATURDAY JUNE 24 11am - 7pm SUNDAY, JUNE 25 12noon - 6pm
Location: Grady High School Gymnasium (across the street from the festival) Please take a moment while you are at Pride to remember the men, women, and children who we have lost to the AIDS pandemic, but remember through this exhibit of 60+ panels.

ATLANTA PRIDE INTERFAITH SERVICE SUNDAY, JUNE 25 AT 9:30am
Location: Magnolia Hall at Piedmont Park (back parking lot by the tennis courts) Co-Sponsored by the Atlanta Pride Committee and Christ Covenant MCC Celebrate all that you are in mind body and spirit with this service of faith and liberation that will include ritual, music and inspiration from a diversity of traditions including Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and others.

Directly following the service there will be a discussion on "Spiritual Exploration and Growth as a Queer Person" which will focus on key issues around spirituality and religious orientation in conjunction with one's sexuality. The discussion will be addressed from the viewpoint of many spiritual contexts.

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Atlanta Pride's **Cultural Celebration**

A Month-Long Spotlight on LGBT Art and History. A Presentation of The Atlanta PRIDE Committee Inc.

In honor of Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration the institutions listed here are producing programs and mounting exhibits that feature homosexual, Bisexual and Transgendered artists and performers. Through these programs and activities Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration seeks to widen the purpose of PRIDE by inviting the Atlanta community to celebrate with us in a month long spotlight on LGBT Art and History.

WPBA TV 30 678-686-0321
Cable Channels 13 or 22

June 5, 11 pm - IN THE LIFE
Planned stories of IN THE LIFE, America's gay and lesbian news magazine:
1)Queer Poets, 2)Glancing Back at "Parting Glances",
3)Out on the Bench, 4)The Laramie Project
5)The New Hepatitis Awareness,
6)Helena, Montana's first Gay Pride March.
June 20, 9 pm June 23, 10:30pm – AFTER STONEWALL: FROM THE RIOTS TO THE NEW MILLENNIUM
JUNE 22, 10:00 pm - OUR HOUSE: A VERY REAL DOCUMENTARY ABOUT KIDS OF GAY AND LESBIAN \PARENTS
JUNE 23, 9 pm - BEFORE STONEWALL
JUNE 28, 9 pm - OUT OF THE PAST
Traces the struggle of gay men and lesbians in America marked by protests, societal backlash, legal battles and rights issues.
JUNE 29,9 pm - AND JUSTICE FOR ALL
Episode 1 - ALL GOD'S CHILDREN
A look at the Black Church1s embracing of African-American lesbians and gay men as dedicated members of its spiritual community.
SPIRIT PEOPLE
Explores the berdache tradition in Native American culture in which individuals who embody feminine and masculine qualities act as a conduit between the physical and spiritual world.
Episode 2 - GREETINGS FROM OUT HERE
Ellen Spiro travels from Virginia to Texas and back again. She creates many insightful portraits of small town gay and lesbian Southerners.
JUNE 30, 9pm - AND JUSTICE FOR ALL
Episode 1 - CAMP LAVENDER HILL
A short documentary about the first summer camp for children of gay, lesbian and bisexual parents.
SEXUAL EXILES
9 women and men who have come to the US seeking an opportunity to be open about their homosexuality.
Episode 2 - TRANSEXUAL MENACE
A remarkable insight into the home and work lives of transgendered individuals

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1189 Euclid Ave., NE
JUNE 4, 2-4pm
First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr.
TEAM SPEED SCRAMBLE
If you love words and games come for an afternoon of fun and challenge. Call 404-688-1371 to pre-register.
JUNE 8, 7:30pm
SPIRITUALITY; THE GIFTS THAT LESBIAN/GAY/TRANS PEOPLE BRING TO THE TABLE
Come for a round table discussion.
JUNE 9, 7:30pm
First Existentialist Congregation, 470 Candler Park Dr.
WHOLE LESBIAN SEX BOOK
Author and publisher, Felice Newman joins us for a reading and round table discussion . Women only. Free.
JUNE 15, -7:30pm
BARBARA ROTHE WITH RESCUE RING
A family saga, the tale of love and estrangement, where husbands and wives, children and parents, deal with the difficult work of growing. Book sales profits to PFLAG.
JUNE 16, 8pm
ALL WOMEN'S OPEN MIC NITE
Sign-up is from7;30 to 8;00pm with performances beginning at 8;00. Women only.
JUNE 22, 7:30pm
MARY DELANEY AND THE ART OF RECOVERY
Mary says, "Every kind of recovery issue is pertinent to the lesbian and gay community".
JUNE 29 -7;30 PM
CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION: FEMINISM 101, PART 2
A discussion of lesbian, gay, bisexual , transgendered issues in the context of multiracial feminism.

OUTWRITE BOOKSTORE AND COFFEEHOUSE 404-607-0082
991 Piedmont Ave.

JUNE 9, 7.30pm PERFORMANCE POETRY HOUR
Hosted by Michael Poe. Open to all.
JUNE 14,-7;30PM -THE KID
DAN SAVAGE reads from and signs his paperback release
JUNE 18, 7:30pm
EMPTY PROMISES PRIVATE PAIN: A Light Out Of Darkness
SUNDIATA ALAYE reads from and signs his book.
JUNE 19, 730pm
INTIMATE COMPANIONS, NEVER EAT IN, & NAKED MEN 2
DAVID LEDDIC discusses and signs his book.
JUNE 21, 7:30pm
WHAT THE BIBLE REALLY SAYS ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY
DANIEL HELMINIAK reads and signs the millennium edition.
JUNE 23, 7:30 pm
THE ELUSIVE EMBRACE: Desire & The Riddle of Identity
DANIEL MENDELSOHN reads from and signs the paperback release.
JUNE 29, 7:30pm
THE MARRIED MAN: A Love Story
EDMUND WHITE reads from and signs his book.

WABE 90.1 FM 678-686-0321

JUNE 18 - 25
WABE will spotlight works by gay composers and performers during the station's various classical music programs including Second Cup, Daytime, Night Music, Aubade and Concert 90.
JUNE 25, 8pm TAPESTRY
JOHN LEMLEY'S program will feature two gay choruses: THE GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON D.C. and POTOMAC FEVER. A small ensemble of The Gay Men's Chorus devoted to acappela singing. They have performed for First Lady Hilary Clinton at the White House

MAY 19-JUNE 11

A GLORIETTA by Atlanta lesbian playwright Rebecca Ranson brings together the struggles of African-American and Gay And Lesbian communities localized by the setting in Atlanta's Kirkwood neighborhood. It's a twisted tale of reclusive love with homosexual and racial undertones. Wednesday-Thursday 7:30 pm.
Saturday 8pm. Sunday 5pm. Information: 404 522 0911
Box Office: 404 523 7647

THROUGH JUNE 11

Alliance Theatre Studio
Woodruff Art Center
WIT,
Pulitzer prize-winning drama by Atlanta lesbian >

Atlanta Pride Celebration

Building our Future Together THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Margaret Edson tells the story of English literature professor struggling with ovarian cancer.
Tickets and information: 404 733 5000

JUNE 2
Hartsfield International Airport
Atrium Gallery
Artwork by Colleen Sterling
June 2 through June 19
Colleen uses a charcoal TECHNIQUE on canvas and > overlays clear acrylic sheets with images created by engraving, sandblasting, and painting. Surprising kinetic effects occur due to cast shadows and viewer move ment. Represented exclusivly by Gallerie Dorita
Information: 404 530 4289.

JUNE 2
Georgia State University
University Center, second floor
CINEFEST
June 2 through June 8
Out at work, 56 minutes
This documentary chronicles the dramatic stories of three gay workers at home, at work, and through their fight to secure job security and employee benefits.
Show times: noon, 4:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.

BEEFCAKE, 93 minutes
This movie is a blending of fact and fiction, archival footage a dramatic action. It's at once a campy ode to underground 50's physique culture and a foray into the struggle for first Amendment rights.
Show times: 2:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10 pm.
Information: 404 651 CINE or
www.cinefest@hotmail.com
Tickets: $3 before 6pm., $5 after 6pm.

JUNE 2
GALLERY 100
Woodruff Arts Center
1280Peachtree Street NE.
MICHAEL VENEZIA RETROSPECTIVE
June 2-30
A memorial exhibition celebrating Michael's contribution to the arts inAtlanta.
Reception: June 2, 5-7pm
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 10-5
Information: 404-733-50011

JUNE 2
The First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta
470 Candler Park Drive NE
LATE NIGHT GARAGE SALE:
The Show (Everything Must Go)
Atlanta's premier black gay performance poets, The ADODIMuse present a raucous, irreverent look at some of the things we all need to let go of. (Well, at least THEY are gonna unload!) Come in ready to release your frustrations, let loose a couple of laughs, and maybe even drop a tear or two. 'Cause for this show, everything must go!
Tickets: $10.00 in advance or $12.00 at the door.*
Sponsored in part by the First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta.
Information: The ADODI Muse 404-352-4211
or e-mail ADODIMuse @aol.com *Advance tickets available starting May 1 at Brushstrokes, Charis, and OutWrite, or from ADODi Muse. Discount tickets for students with valid ID $7.00. (The ADODIMuse only)

JUNE13
Eddie's Attic
515-B North McDonough Street on Decatur square
GLAM, SPAM, and DENTAL DAMS
June 13 and June 27, 8:00 p.m.
Both shows feature gay and lesbian comics from Atlanta including Matt Montgomery and Allysa Barnett. General of mission to: $8 at the door. Come early for the bar and eatery.
Information: 404 377 4976.

JUNE 15
Art Station Inc.
5384 Manor Drive, Stone Mountain
Tin Roof Blues
June 15 through 18 8:00 p.m., Sundays 3:00 p.m.
A musical revue of the Deep South has roots in Southern gospel and Honkey-Tonk featuring the vocal blending of Bryan Mercer, Clint Thornton and Megan Mc Farland.
Tickets: $15.00 and $21.00.
Reservations and directions: 770 469 1105.

JUNE 15
7 Stages
1105 Euclid Avenue
GLORY BOX
June 15 through 18
Thursday 7:30pm, Friday and Saturday 8pm Sunday 5pm.
Performance artist Tim Miller on his third visit to 7 Stages presents his new autobiographical monologue GLORY BOX; a funny, sexy, and charged exploration through the challenges of love, gay marriage, and the struggle for emigration rights for gay people and their partners.
General admission: $20
Tickets: 404 523 7647/ www.7 stages.org
Le Saint Amour, (next to Cowtippers) will host "Cocktails with Tim Miller" - $50 fundraiser to benefit 7 stages. Thursday June 15th a 11pm.

JUNE 16
DAD'S GARAGE
280 Elizabeth Street Suite C-101
PSHYCO BEACH PARTY
June 16 -July 22, Saturday at 8:00 p.m.
Sunday July 2, 9, 16, at 5pm.
Welcome to the white beaches of California where th surf is up, cats are cool, and nothing is what it seems. Gay playwright Charles Busch take innocents to the age in this campy spoof of the 1960's Gigit movies with a splash of "Mommy Dearest" and "SIBIL" Openin night: A Pride Benefit Information and tickets:
404 523 3141

JUNE 17
Rialto Center For The Performing Arts
80 Forsyth Street
Celluloid, Footlights, And Videotape
THE ATLANTA GAY MENS CHORUS
Saturday June 17 at 8pm.
The gay Men's Chorus new artistic director Gary W. Arnold invites you to join the chorus and a salute to the music of the media with songs from stage, screen, and the "boob tube". Tickets: online at www.AGMChours.org
Information: 404 320 1030

JUNE 17
The Black Lesbian and Gay Poet's Society
828 West Peachtree St
Suite 206
SPEAKFIRE!
Saturday June 17 at 8pm.
Come join in a night of provocative open mic poetry an performing arts. Ynkuya will be your host with co-hosts Imani and Malik. Doors Open 8pm, Vibe begins at 9pm. Admission: $7:00, $5.00 for those who read or perform.

JUNE 23
Trinity Gallery
315 East paces Ferry Road, NE.
HAIRDOS AND TRACTOR PULLS
June 23for July 29
A visual commentary and celebration on the experience of growing up Gay and Bisexual in the South. This is a juried show which includes painting, sculpture, and photography. Reception: Friday, June 23, 6pm-9pm. Gallery: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, Saturday 11am-5:00 pm.
Information: 404 237 0370

JUNE 23-25
THE ATLANTA PRIDE FESTIVAL
The Meadows At Piedmont Park festival hours as follows: Friday June 23: 6pm-10pm.
Saturday June 24: 11am-10pm.
Sunday June 25: 11am-10pm.
Sunday June 25: Atlanta Pride Parade: 12:00 Noon kicko Civic Center MARTA to station, assemble@10am.
Sunday June 25: PRIDE Interfaith Service
9:30am Celebrate with us before you March.
Location to be announced - check our website for detail

$5000 Jackpot every hour

$1000 minimum Jackpot

10% Bonus

10% Bonus on Deposits of $50 and more

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

2000 **Friends of Pride**

Friend of Pride 2000 ATLANTA PRIDE CELEBRATION

Thirty years ago, the first PRIDE march was held in Atlanta. No one is sure of the exact number of marchers, some say 30 some say 130, but the fact is that many of those who marched were forced, out of fear, to wear paper bags over their heads to protect their identity. It almost sounds funny doesn't it? Gay men and women marching in Atlanta, wearing bags to disguise themselves. Some lost jobs, some were alienated from their families and some faced extreme prejudice for just being themselves ...BUT THEY MARCHED.... They found a sense of solidarity and community and over the years Atlanta PRIDE grew and the bags have disappeared.... Well, they have for many of us.

THE FRIENDS OF PRIDE CAMPAIGN was established in 1995 as a way for individuals and smaller business's to support and sponsor the festival. 1999 record level of commitment to FRIENDS OF PRIDE accounted for almost a full 10% of our operating budget. Some people contributed $25, many gave at the $100 and $250 levels and one person gave $3000. All helped to make sure Atlanta PRIDE flourished. We ask you to help make sure Atlanta's PRIDE Celebration continues to grow, continues to nurture and continues to affect our community.

The 2000 FRIENDS OF PRIDE CAMPAIGN once again has reached record levels of commitment. It is through the generous support of the individuals and companies, that the festival committee is able to bring our community together for our annual PRIDE Celebration. Once again THANKS to thos of you listed here... and THANKS to those of you who have joined since this list was published..

Agatha's
Atlanta Rainbow Trout
Joy Barnes
Ellen Bass
Charles R. Bobo II
J. D. Buttrey
Jewell Christie
Karen Choate
Russel Clark & Ron Magbee
Scott Clodfelter & Mark Hutchenson
Trisha Clymore & Becky England
Joyce Colmar
Kelvin Lynn Cothren
Tim Cowlbeck
Liz Crane
Lissa Dulany
Scott Dixon
Hazel Edlinger
Steve Epstein
Glen Paul Freedman & Paul O'Rourke
David Ferency
Dr. Jim Fitzerald
Sean Fitzgerald
Marla Franks
Paul Gibson
Jeff Graham & Peter Stinner
Deneen Goddard
Len Greenough & Larry Sheldon
Mike Hall
Christophe Hallaran
Philip Harrison
Scott Hayes & Scott Davis
Betsy Henderson
Mark Hoppert
Gerald Hoyt
HRC - Atlanta
Mark Icenhower & Gary Bastiam
In Loving Memory of Gilbert Prevatte
Inman Animal Hospital
Kenneth Johnson
Kenny Jowers
Joan Karpeles
James Knoll
Carl Lange
Robert Larsen
Joe Lawson
Len Leritz & Ed Stansell
Meredith & Amy
Chester McDonnell
Lisa McLaughlin
Melissa McTaggart
Jeffrey Meeks
Robin Merritt & Renee DuBose
Keat Miller & Al Pellenberg
Our Hope M.C.C.
Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse
Al Pellenberg
Dottie Pettes
Pride Military Color & Honor Guard
R.M. Prudent, MD & Craig L. Pigg
Brent Rabon
Michael Reischman
Phil Schaefer & Darren Adair
Steve Schmidt
Rick Scholla
Ricky Sice & James Cruse
John L. Simmons II
Mark Stevens
Sherri Mann Stewart
John Trueblood
Michael Vinson
Bill Weaver & Doug Johnson
Hank Wheeler
Tom Whitehead & Billy Vough
Karen Wills
Linda W. Wilson, PhD
F. Cole Woolford, MD
Julie Wood
J. Patrick Wooten
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Atlanta Pride Celebration

June 2000 Piedmont Park

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The Market **Stage Performers**

It's back, bigger and better! Atlanta Pride Celebration 2000 presents The Market Stage, returning from its debut last year. Designed like an outdoor coffeehouse or music bar, it's a great place to enjoy a variety of performances in an acoustic setting. Relax at the tables and chairs, get out of the sun, enjoy a beverage and catch great entertainment all afternoon.

Open Saturday and Sunday, June 24-25, from 1 pm to 6 pm
The Market Stage is located at the apex of the Pride Market in its own tent.

This year's expected Market Stage lineup includes performances by:

Karen E. Reynolds
Gail Anthony Guyton
Drew Boles
Carly Arrowsmith
Sean Kagalis
Karen Leppo
Sonia Leigh
Tracy Elliot
Ann Nesby
Cathy Danielson
Morgan Rowe
Steven Gellman
Skott Freedman
Church of One
About Eve

and much more!!!!!

Showtime Networks **Stage Schedule**

(all performance times subject to change without notice)

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

7:00 - 7:30 House Music
7:30 - 8:00 The Jill Austin Band
7:55 - 8:05 Brenda Barron, GLSTN speaker
8:00 - 8:30 Sonia Leigh & Wet Laundry
8:30 - 9:00 Dimmer Switch
9:00 - 9:30 LaTonya Peoples
9:30 - 10:00 Dyamond Theory

Jill Austin Band

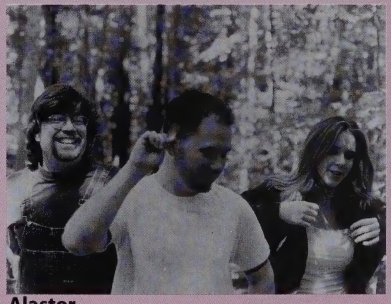
A Few Degrees

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

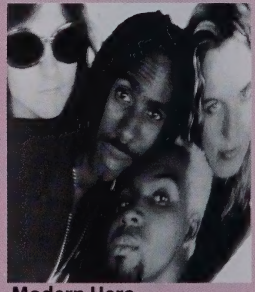
12:00 - 1:00 House Music
1:00 - 1:30 A Few Degrees
1:30 - 2:00 Alastor
2:00 - 2:30 Weaklazyliar
2:30 - 3:00 Twelve Tone
3:00 - 3:30 Modern Hero
3:30 - 4:00 Urvashi Vaid, NGLTF speaker Harry Knox, GEP speaker
4:00 - 5:45 Queer Stock Robert Urban The Gentle Readers Angela Motter
5:45 - 6:00 Craig Washington, SONG speaker
6:00 - 6:30 Ashley & Mark
6:30 - 7:00 Wendy Bucklew
7:00 - 7:30 Doria Roberts
7:30 - 8:00 Jen Foster & band
8:00 - 8:30 Diane Durrett
8:30 - 9:15 Duality

Duality

Corday



Alastor



Modern Hero

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

12:00 - 12:30 House Music
12:30 - 1:00 Diane Ward
1:00 - 1:30 Scout
1:30 - 2:00 Morticia DeVille and the Gospel Echoes
2:00 - 2:30 The Butchies
2:30 - 3:00 Mayor Campbell, Councilperson Woolard
3:00 - 3:30 Halcyon
3:30 - 4:00 Stereo Popsicle
4:00 - 4:30 Atlanta Pride Committee
4:30 - 5:15 disappear fear
5:15 - 6:00 Corday
6:00 - 7:00 The B-52's
7:30 - 8:00 House Music
8:00 - 10:00 Starlight Cabaret

Morticia Deville

Weaklazyliar

Summer 2000

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MARKET B
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MEDICAL STATION
MARKET C
VOLLEYBALL COURTS

Piedmont Park

The Meadows at 10th and Monroe

Atlanta Pride Celebration
June 2000 Piedmont Park
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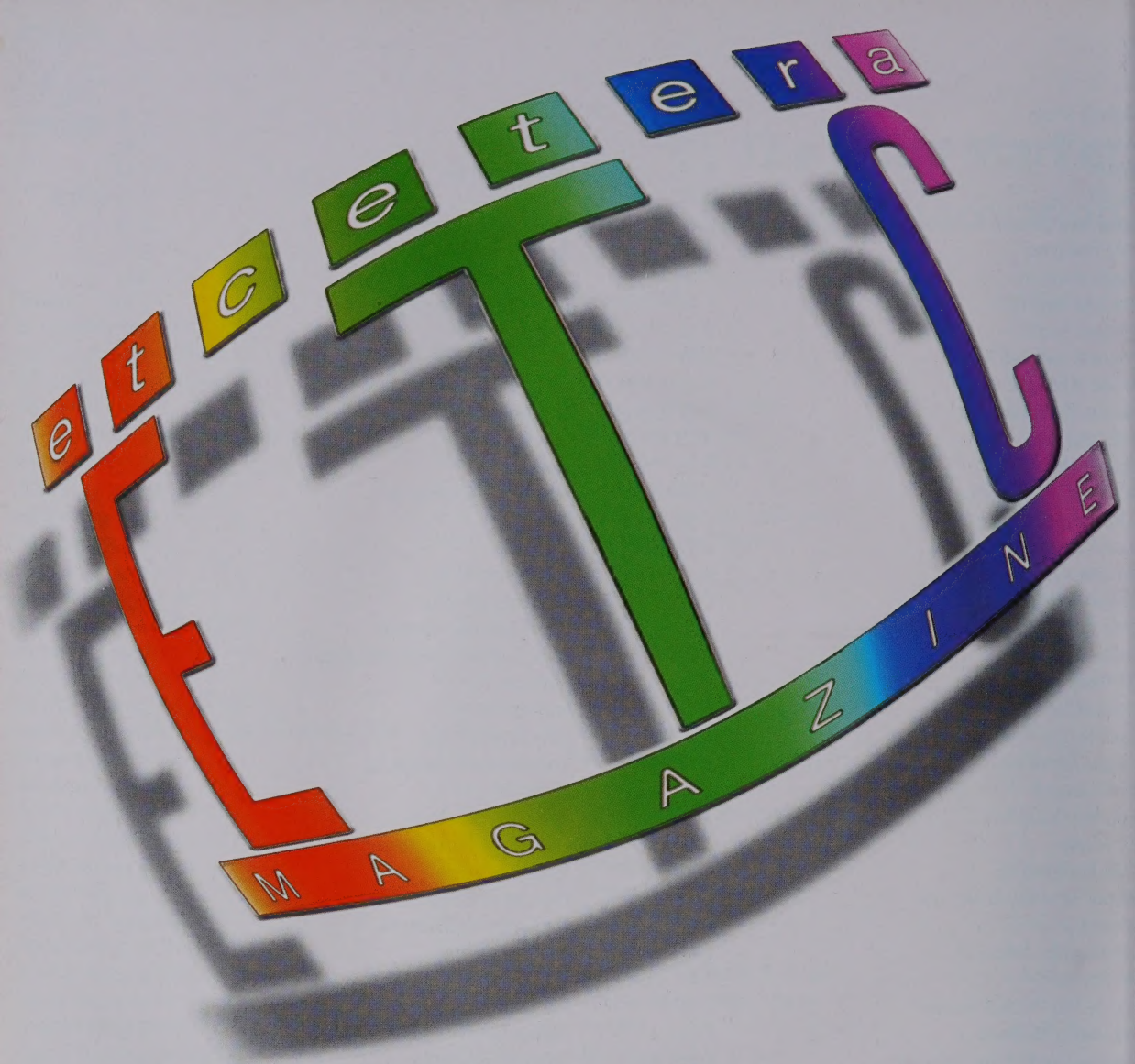
The Pride Market
Vendor information

Name	Booth
A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.	B 53
Aardvark Promotional Merch.	B 65
ACLU of Georgia Foundation	B 13
AID Atlanta	B 33,34,43,44
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta	A 51
AIDS Survival Project	B 9, 10
AIDS Treatment Initiatives	C 9, 10
AIDS Walk Atlanta	B 52
Airwaves Inc.	A 32
All Saints MCC	A 24
Alternative Creations Inc.	B 23
Alternative Fine Art Photography	A 107
Amber Forever Amber	A 65
American Cancer Society	A 68
American Express Financial Advisors	B 6,7
Americans United for Separation of Church and State	B 14
Amnesty International	C 39
Ampersand Unlimited	C 53
Ancient Body Art	A 106
ARM Enterprise Group Inc.	B 49
Artistic Ventures	B 38
Athens Pride	C 54
Atlanta City Search.Com	B 17
Atlanta Coalition of Theatres	A 60, 61
Atlanta Couples Together	B 40, 41
Atlanta Executive Network	B 26
Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus	A 18
Atlanta Freedom Marching Band	A 79,80
Atlanta Freethought Society	B 15
Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Center	C 49
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus	A 17
Atlanta Gaymes Inc.	A 57
Atlanta Gender Exploration	A 21
Atlanta Rainbow Trout	A 26
Atlanta Team Tennis Assn.	A 25
Aveda Group	B 51
Ballonatics	B 61
Basket Barn	A 23
Benefits America	A 37, 38
Bixler & Puce Textiles	B 54
Black and White Men Together	A 56
Brian Patterson Designs Inc.	B 18
Bryant, Michael	A 105
Camp' Camp	B 19
Carman Research	C 36
Cars r us.com	C 6
Centers for Disease Control	A 7
CGR Development Corp	A 6
Christ Covenant MCC	B 25, 35
Clique Magazine	B 16
Coldwell Banker - The Condo Store	A 63
Congregation Bet Haverim	C 38
Cool Jewelry	A 3
Crunch Fitness	B 3
D&B Enterprises	A 104
D&B Jewelry	A 78
DANT	B 32
Database Research	A 100, 101
David Chiropractic	A 67
David Magazine	A 58
Dixie Bowlers	B 37
Dwight Harrison Volkswagen	A 5
Earthlink	C 5
eMD.com	C 31
Empire Capital Enterprises, Inc.	C 21
ETC, Magazine	B 1, 2
Explicity	A 1
Family Pride and Family Pet Pride	C 40,41
Feminist Women's Health Center	A 2
First MCC	A73,74,75
First Union Bank	B 50
Florida Keys & Key West	A 4
Fourth Tuesday Atlanta	A 71,72
Friends and Family of East Point Georgia	C 28
GABC	B 36
GANG	A 11
Gault, Kelly	C 105
Gay and Lesbian Alliance	B 46
Gay Spirit Vision	A 34
Gayborhood.com	C 7,8
Georgia Abortion and Reproductive Rights	A 43
Georgia Assn. Of Physicians for Human Rights	B 27, 28
Georgia Equality Project	C 17,18,25,26
Georgia Log Cabin Republicans	C 61
Georgia Psychological Assn. / Div. H	A 19,20

Georgia Shares	B 47
Georgia Stonewall Democrats	A 49,50
GLAAD	B 55
GLSEN	B 21
Good Mews Animal Foundation	C 60
HAF Enterprises	C 37
Home to do.com	C 4
Hotlanta River Expo	C 13
Hotlanta Soccer	A 55
Hotlanta Volleyball Assn.	B 56
House of Edwards	B 22
Human Rights Campaign	C 15,16,23,24
Industrial Gear	A 8,9,10
Instinct Magazine	A 22
It's About Independence	A 66
J P Stevens Engraving Co.	C 52
Janie's Jewelry Junction	C 45,46
Jerusalem House	A 78
Jewelry by Ponce	C 14,22
JHM Studio	C 104
Juliry	B 24
KB Designs	C 1
Lambda Car Club	A 12
Lambda Gear	B 11,12
League Atlanta Inc.	A 16
Limin' Around	B 48
Live Well Chiropractic	A 15
LTI Atlanta	C 29
M&P Marketing Inc.	C 107
Mobile Veterinary Services, Inc.	C 50
Monroe, Stacie	C 59
Morningside Chiropractic	C 47
Mr. Electric	C 48
Muscle Max Discount Supplies	C 62
My Favorite Mechanic	C 55
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force	C 44
National Institutes of Health	B 62
National Mental Health Assoc. of Georiga	B 31
New Warriors / The Mankind Project	A 64
Nord, Chris	C 51, A 59
Northlake Alliance of Gays and Straights	B 69
Out on Film	A 44
Out There! Productions	B 45
Outright Libertarians	C 2
Peace Corps	C 56
Pets are Loving Support	B 42
P-Flag Atlanta	C 32,33,34
Planetout	B 66,67
Positive Impact Inc.	C 27
Prerogative Graphics	A 36,46,45
Priceline.com	C 30
Pride Creations	C 42
Pride Medical, Inc.	C 43
Pride Store	C 11,12,19,20
Prudential Securities Inc.	A 14
Rainbow and Stars	B 8
Rainbow Naturist Brotherhood	A 27
Resort Travel, Marketing	C 102
RFD	B 63
Rosencone Studios	A 77
RVM Promotions LLC	A 69
S&M Marketing Inc.	A 102
Salle Opticians	C 58
Savell's Inc.	C 103
Scheiffelin & Somerset Co.	A 103
SEGRA	A 47,48
Sharkware	C 100, 101
Shira's Print Boutique	B 58
Showtime Networks	B 29,30
Smoky Mountain Graphics	A 108,109
South East Atlanta Gays and Lesbians	B 39
SouthCare LLC	C 63
Southern Voice	A 53,54
Statscript Pharmacy	C 57
Stonewall Bar of Georgia, Inc.	B 60
Studio 205	B 70
Swain Australian Tours	C 35
Sweet Valley Bonsai Nursery	C 106
Temporary Tattoos	B 59
The Arizona Sunglass Company	A 81,82
The Gay Financial Network	A 62
The Gay Pages, Inc.	A 35
The Resort on Carefree Blvd.	B 68
The Rivers Edge	A 13
Theema Communications/Compu Systems	A 33
Tiffany O'Neil's Pin Co.	A 70
Tim Wilkerson Photography	B 20
TLC Laser Center & Lenox Eye Assoc.	B 4
Trade Co. Enterprises, Inc.	A 42
Trinity United Methodist Church	A 31
Tsunami Temporary Tatoos	A 41
Tupperware Pride	A 30
Unitarian Universalist Association	B 64
Village Chiropractic	A 28
Virginia Highland Baptist Church	B 57
W&N Glass	A 29
Wilderness Network of Georgia	A 39
Women's Outdoor Network, Inc.	A 40
YouthPride	B 5



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TRUE HEROES IN OUR BOOK, **FOUR HOURS** OF TIME HELPING OUT WITH THE WEEKEND GETS YOU THIS COOL T SHIRT FOR YOUR VERY OWN. **SIGN UP** ON-LINE AT www.atlantapride.org OR VISIT THE CHECK IN TENT AT THE TOP OF THE HILL

MERCHANDISE

THESE ARE THE GREAT FOLKS FROM THE **Atlanta Feminist Womens Chorus** AND THEY ARE HELPING US SELL THE OFFICIAL PRIDE SHIRTS HATS, CAPS ETC. VISIT THEM AT THE PRIDE STORE AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP PRIDE AT THE SAME TIME

MEDICAL

A BIG THANKS TO DR. DOUG AND DR. NICKI AND THE FOLKS AT EMORY HEALTHCARE AND HOSPITALS. FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW THEY ARE STAFFING THE FIRST AID CENTERS (3). HEY **DON'T BE A HERO**... IF YOU NEED HELP THAT'S WHY THEY ARE HERE....

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PRIDE COMMITTEE

BACK IN OUR FAVORITE "SANGRIA" SHIRT THIS YEAR, THESE ARE THE FOLKS WHO MAKE UP THE PRIDE COMMITTEE. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE EXECUTIVE STAFF, AND THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM, LET US KNOW, WE ARE HERE TO MAKE EVERYONE'S WEEKEND FUN, EXCITING AND SAFE.

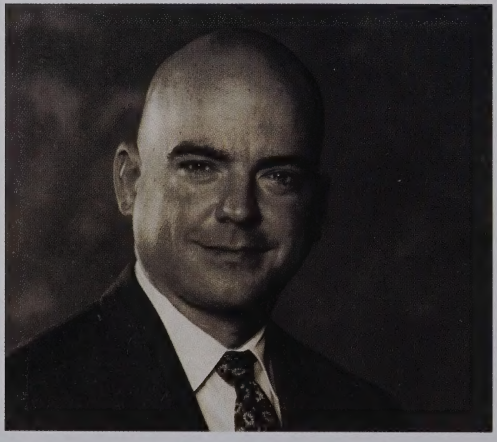
WE MEET ONCE A MONTH (CHECK THE WEB) AND WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN AND HELP MAKE EVERY PRIDE BETTER!

Atlanta Pride **Speakers**

SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS

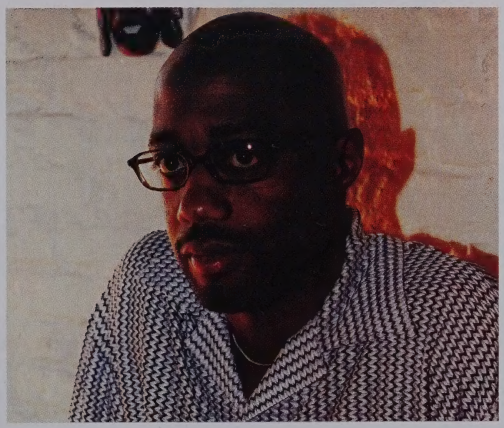
Friday evening:	Saturday afternoon:	Sunday afternoon:
Brenda Barron	**Harry Knox**	**Mayor Bill Campbell**
	Urvashi Vaid	**Council Member Cathy Woolard**
	Craig Washington	

BRENDA BARRON was born and raised in Pennsylvania. After receiving her degree in Russian and German studies from Bucknell University in 1996, she decided to focus her energies on making change at home in the US. For the next three years, Brenda strengthened her organizing skills through campus and community organizing with the State Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs). Now based in Atlanta, she works with GLSEN chapters and activists in 15 states in the South to develop the grassroots organizing skills to change K-12 schools.



HARRY KNOX Executive Director of the Georgia Equality Project, is a graduate of the University of Georgia where he studied Political Science, and Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania from which he received the Master of Divinity degree. Harry also studied Religious Interest Group Politics at Miami University of Ohio. Raised United Methodist, Harry pursued ordination in the United Church of Christ, but was denied because he is gay. He went to work for the American Cancer Society, Georgia division, in 1990 and finished his career there in 1997 as Business Manager for School Health and Patient Services Programs. He has served on the boards of the Atlanta Gay Man's Chorus, St. Mark United Methodist Church, the Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network, and as Co-chair of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Equality Project. Harry has been an activist on behalf of the GLBT communities within the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Harry is currently Executive Director of the Georgia Equality Project, the political voice of Georgia's GLBT communities. the Georgia Equality Project lobbies state and local legislative and administrative bodies, provides voter guides to gay and gay-friendly voters and educates the larger public to GLBT issues. Harry lives in southeast Atlanta with his partner, John.

URVASHI VAID Director of the Policy Institute is a nationally recognized author and attorney, is the Director of the Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). A 20-year veteran of the fight for civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) people, Ms. Vaid has worked as an attorney for the ACLU and is the author of an award-winning book on the politics of the modern gay rights movement. Her book titled Virtual Equality: The Mainstreaming of Gay and Lesbian Liberation (Anchor Books, 1996) won the American Library Association's 1996 Gay Nonfiction Book Award. Vaid has received numerous honors for her contributions, including the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund's Civil Rights Award and an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law at Queens College. In 1994, she was selected by Time magazine as one of the 50 most influential leaders under 40 years old in the United States, and one of the 100 most promising young leaders worldwide.



CRAIG WASHINGTON Co-Director for Southerners On New Ground (SONG). SONG is an activist organization that integrates work against racism, sexism, and economic injustice into GLBT organizing and work against homophobia into freedom struggles to build progressive movement across the south. He is also a board member of YouthPride and a writer for Clikque Magazine. In the past, he has served as an HIV Prevention Program Coordinator with AID Atlanta, Vice-Chair of the Metro Atlanta HIV Health Services Planning Council, and Co-Chair of 2nd Sunday, a support organization for black gay men.

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Atlanta Pride **Parade Grand Marshals**

For our 30th Anniversary Celebration, the Atlanta Pride Committee chose to honor 30 individuals, including past committee members and members of the Atlanta community that we felt had furthered the mission and purpose of the Atlanta Pride Committee. You will see them in the parade and at the park on Sunday in their purple Grand Marshal T- shirts. If you have a chance, thank them, for without their contribution, you would not be enjoying such a marvelous Pride Celebration! In alphabetical order:

Hubert Alexander, first on the Board, then as the first Executive Director for Pride, we now have a parade award in his name to honor his memory.

Mona Bennett, you know her or you've seen her (wears hats with lots of buttons) a tireless activist and champion of many causes

Dale Biggers, led the Atlanta Pride Committee in the mid '80's when others were too busy, too tired, or just didn't care – Dale made sure Pride happened.

Jeff Black, worked long and hard to move Pride into the 21st century. He created the event t-shirts as fundraisers at the festival, and helped make Piedmont Park the home for Pride festivals.

Commissioner Nancy Boxill, ensured Pride received a Proclamation from Fulton County every year. She always came through for us each time she was asked!

Charlie Brown, from assisting with the production of the Starlight Cabaret, to Pride fundraisers at Backstreet, Charlie has shown support to Pride for years.

Ray Brewer, created the market "look" and layout that is still in use today. Thanks Ray for making us get rid of those crummy blue tarps!

Mayor Bill Campbell, was the first Mayor of Atlanta to march in our parade. The Mayor has joined us at the festival every year throughout his term, marching in our parade and/or speaking to us from the stage.

Chris Cash and **Leigh Van der Els**, former owners of Southern Voice, Chris and Leigh helped the Pride Committee by providing publishing and sales expertise for the Pride Guide. They also brought Southern Voice on board as media sponsors of the festival.

Bev Cook, you know her as the owner of the Heretic, but did you also know that in the late '80's Bev stood proudly as a lone female voice in a then very male dominated community? She served as Vice President of the Pride organization for several years during that time.

Kelvin Lynn Cothren, understood the importance of having strong leadership by both men AND women to move Pride into the 21st century. He actively recruited women to serve in leadership capacities on the Board of the Pride Committee. In 1992, he served as the Co-Chair of the Board and continued in a Board position for many years after that.

Mary Davis, our city council member for years, Mary was always a supporter of Pride. She was quick to lend a hand when needed, and was a proud participant at our annual festival while she served on the council.

Juliet De La Cruz, former Board Co-Chair, Juliet started the annual "Biker Chick" fundraiser held each spring. She also chaired the bylaws and nomination and review committees.

Dallas Denny, helped us build the bridge to the transgendered community when she served on the Pride Board in the mid-'90's. She's a tireless activist and educator still hard at work in our community.

Rev. Renee DuBose, served on the Board from 1997 – 1999 and chaired the Friends of Pride Campaign. Through Renee's leadership, this fledgling campaign to solicit individual's financial support grew to become a very successful program.

Senator Vincent Fort, the author of the hate crimes bill which passed earlier this year. Senator Fort is truly an ally for our community.

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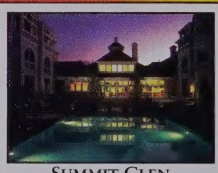

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Atlanta Pride
Celebrating our Community
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Jim Heverly and Ron Whalen, of ETC Magazine. Jim and Ron have supported Pride for as long as ETC has been published. Providing media sponsorship each year, and pride guide distribution for several years, they have helped us in getting the word out about Pride!

Gene Holloway began working on the Pride committee in 1973, and chaired the committee from 1984-'85. He was also a founding member of several community organizations including: MAGLO, ACT UP, and BWMT. Gene has basically dedicated his life to "the cause" and we're very grateful to him.

Richy Howard, had been on the Board of Pride and became Co-Chair of the Board in 1994. Through Richy's leadership the Pride Committee was able to overcome it's financial losses from the '93 festival and get back on track with solid structure and vision for future growth.

Terry Irons, came to the Pride Committee in 1994 and totally re-vamped our entertainment program. As entertainment chair from '94-'97, Terry brought us talented, well known and up and coming local and national performer

Kenneth Johnson, served on the Board from 1993-1996 as the Treasurer. Kenneth instituted accounting procedures and policies, worked with Richy to create the event budget, and brought a level of accountability to the organization that helped get us back on track.

Congressman John Lewis, one of the finest human rights activists our community, our city, and our state will ever be able to lay claim to, thank you Congressman Lewis!

Eddie Owen, owner of Eddie's Attic in Decatur he has given many an up and coming lesbian, gay, bi, or trans performer an opportunity to be seen and heard. Many of Pride's entertainers have performed at his establishment while in town for the festival.

RAVEN, produces the famous "Starlight Cabaret" which traditionally closes the Pride festival. Does anyone do it better? We don't think so!

Herb Rehberg, was an Atlanta City Firefighter who got the big ladder fire trucks into the parade. Herb really took a chance when he got permission for the fire trucks to be in a "gay" parade, years ago, but now they are an annual part of the Pride parade and often carry our grand marshals, and Pride VIP's!

Amber Richards, made the now famous "Starlight Cabaret" famous! Amber brought a level of professionalism to this form of entertainment which is followed today. We honor her memory at the close of our festival each year.

Shelly Robbins, was Board Co-Chair in 1992 and was responsible for the creation of the very first Pride Guide, which back then was laid out by hand, and reproduced on a photocopier! Shelly also worked behind the scenes as the financial manager during the festival.

Charlie St. John, way back in the beginning of time, Charlie and the Gay Liberation Front lead the first Gay Protest March on City Hall in Atlanta. This year we are celebrating our 30th anniversary march and festival, but it wouldn't have happened without Charlie. That's why it is so important to be reminded of our history, for Charlie is now deceased. However, his memory lives on every year we come together to celebrate Pride!

Duncan Teague, activist, spiritual leader, poet, and former Pride Board member. Duncan's vision was to have an executive director for the Pride committee – that was back in 1993 when we were nearly broke and terribly unorganized, and nothing could be further from our minds. But Duncan never lost that vision and helped bring the structures into place so that 2 years later, we had our first E.D.!

Tom Whitehead, another visionary who served on our Board of Directors for 8 years throughout the '90's. Tom got us our very first major corporate sponsorships, which allowed us to "go up a notch" in the production of our festival. He also worked tirelessly as the coordinator of the food and beverage vendors.

Cathy Woolard, a community activist and our first openly gay elected official. Cathy has been in the trenches for many, many years fighting our fight for full equality.

To all of our Pride 2000 Grand Marshals, a heartfelt "Thank You"

Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Sponsor profile **Coors Brewing Company**

Platinum Sponsors For Festival 2000

Atlanta Pride's 30th Anniversary Attracts Record Sponsorship Dollars

The Atlanta Pride committee has announced record corporate sponsorship contributions to fund the 30th Anniversary Pride Festival. This year's strategic sponsor, Coors Brewing Company became the 'Rainbow Sponsor' with a contribution of more than $50,000.

The Atlanta Pride Festival is held in Piedmont Park from June 23 to June 25 and is the culminating celebration of Gay Pride Month. As the fourth largest Pride Festival in the country the weekend will attract an estimated 300,000 visitors from around the USA, Canada and Europe. Corporate sponsors include a variety of local and national companies hoping to reach the influential gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) community and its supporters.

"We are delighted with the massive response from community and national companies," said Donna Narducci, Executive Director of the Atlanta Pride Committee. "These contributions prove that the GLBT community is viewed as a viable and important contributor to the economy."

Pride 2000 will hold new and traditional entertainment and educational events to celebrate this the 30th year. National and local musical artists (to be announced) will entertain the massive crowd from two stages. Plans include the AIDS Vigil, Commitment Ceremony and more than 170 floats, cars and marching groups for the Parade which has become the centerpiece of the Pride Festival over the years. In addition over 200 vendor booths and assorted cultural events will enhance the festivities. For additional information, and to learn how to become a Pride Festival Volunteer please check out Atlanta Pride website at www.atlantapride.org

Atlanta Pride 2000 and The Atlanta Pride Committee Inc. is a 501 c-3 non profit organization dedicated to the planning and implementation of Pride Month and the Pride Festival to develop awareness of the GLBT community and to celebrate the right to enjoy an alternative lifestyle.

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Atlanta Pride Celebration
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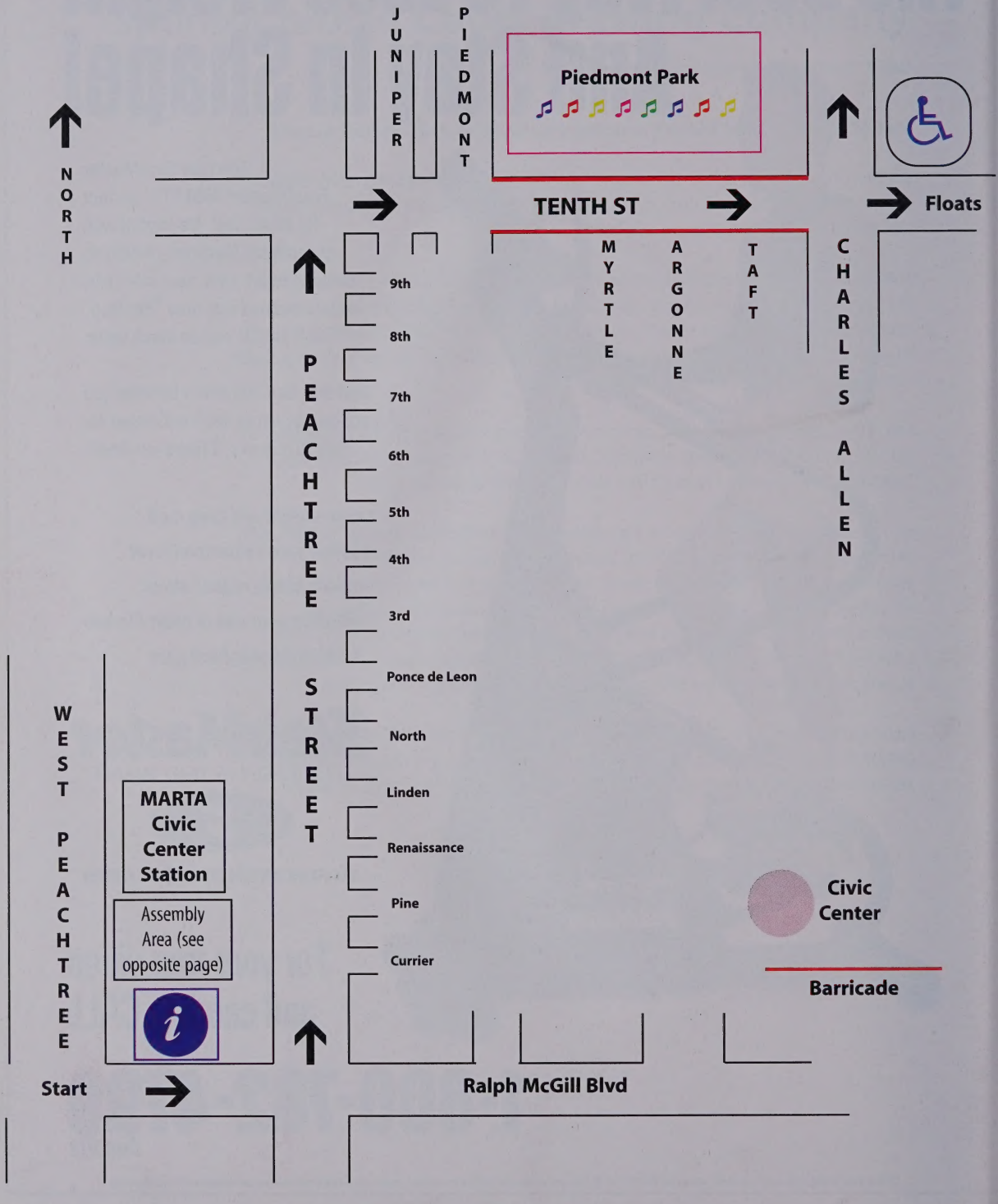
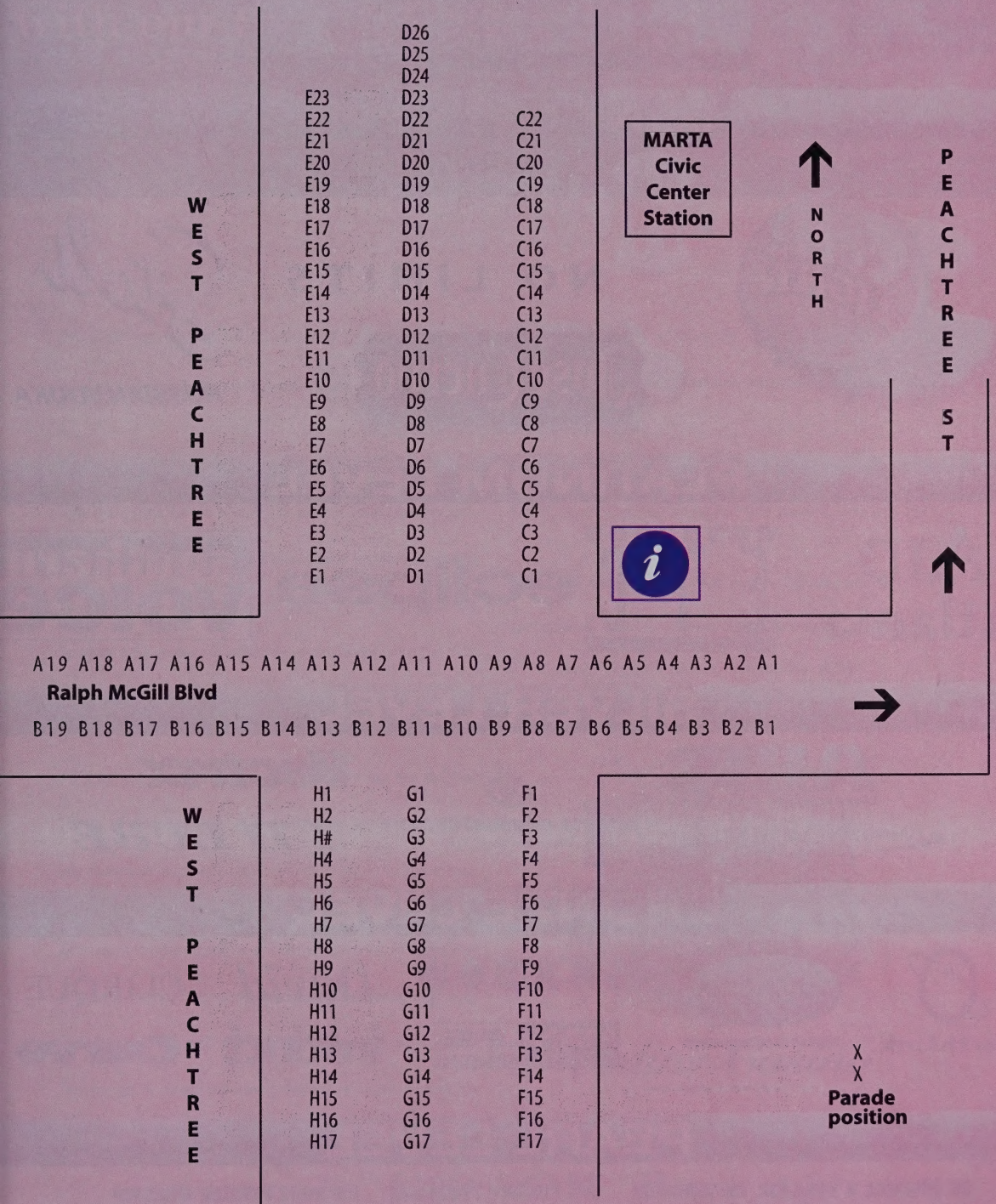
Parade **Route**



Parade **Assembly Area**



Atlanta Pride Celebration
June 2000 Piedmont Park

Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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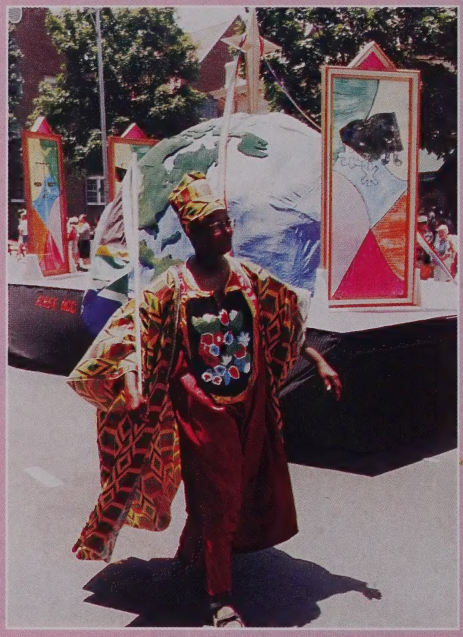
Parade **Awards**

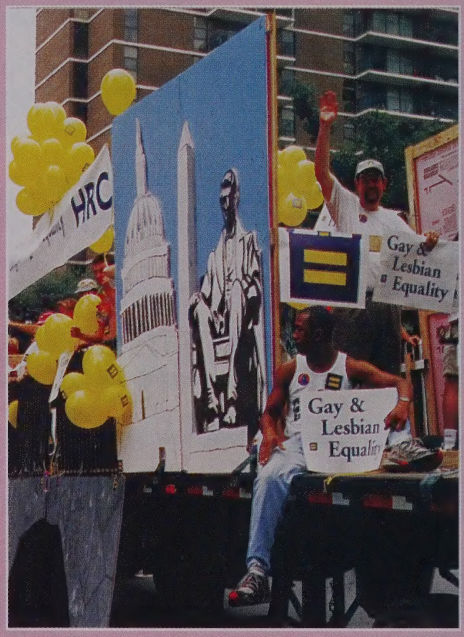
The Sam Baker Award for Best Business Float

Sam Baker, what a guy! I can remember when I first got involved with Pride in the mid-'80's and Sam was already a local and national celebrity. Sam took Heartstrings on tour across the country raising money and awareness for the AIDS epidemic that the rest of us were just learning about. I remember standing on the side of the stage in 1990 listening to Sam belt out a song to the crowd, still caring how it sounded, hoping that he was making a difference. We saw his courage and all we could do was cry. Sam guides us still today! *Al Pellenberg*



The Hubert Alexander Award for Best Non-Profit Float

Hubert T. Alexander was a wonderful man who had a vision of what the Atlanta Pride Committee should be. Hubert served as the first ever Executive Director for Pride. He understood the power of cooperative effort. Five years ago he envisioned and created "Pride of the Southeast" (POSE) a regional conference that brings together pride festival organizers from all over the southeastern region. POSE is now an annual event held each spring. I am honored to have known Hubert and deeply miss his humor and wisdom. May his memory and his vision live on!
Donna Narducci



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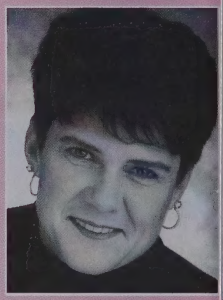
Atlanta Pride Committee Inc.
Board of Directors

Glen Paul Freedman
Co Chair, Board of Directors

Glen is honored to be a part of the Atlanta Pride's 30th annual celebration in serving his 5th year as the Co-Chair-Board of Directors and Pride Event. Glen's focus has been on long-term sponsorships, partnerships and staff positions for the Atlanta Pride Committee, Inc. Glen is also serving his 4th year as the International Vice President - InterPride (International Association Lesbian/Gay Pride Coordinators). Glen is responsible for Worldwide Outreach, IP2000 International Conference- Atlanta and Liaison to the White House on behalf of InterPride. Glen is employed with WORLDSPAN, L.P. – Travel Information Services for the past 15 years as the Training Coordinator. Glen is the Chair of Global, Gay and Lesbian Employee Association. This is a special year for Glen, his father Jerry and partner Ira are celebrating 25 years together and have registered for Domestic Partnership in Los Angeles, California. Glen's partner is Paul Raymond O'Rourke who has worked as a Field Medic for the past 6 years and is currently a Medical Assistant in Atlanta.



Jane Daly Radenhausen
Co Chair, Board of Directors

Jane Radenhausen began her involvement with Atlanta Pride in 1995 collecting donations at the festival entrance. In 1996 she served as the Press and PR Co-Chair She coordinated the VIP party in 1997 and '98 and assisted with Press and PR. In 1998 Jane joined the Atlanta Pride Board. Jane was the Festival Co-Chair in 1999 and is Co-Chair of this year's Pride Festival 2000. A marathon runner and triathlete, Jane is also an involved volunteer for many Atlanta causes. If you see her running around town, honk and wave. Or look for her at the Pride Festival entrance, you'll find her there, collecting donations...(some things never change!)

Joy Barnes
Board of Directors

Joy Barnes has more than twenty years of award-winning advertising sales management and related experience in marketing and public relations. In her position as vice president at IMAGES USA, a minority-owned advertising and marketing firm in Atlanta, she has primary responsibilities in new business development, account management and as director of IMAGES advertising sales unit. Her clients include Cox Communications, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and BellSouth Mobility. A native New Yorker, Joy has called Atlanta her home for the past 18 years. She has managed, directed and represented various accounts and projects ranging from local non-profit organizations to multi-million dollar corporations. Joy is very active and well respected in the GLBT community nationally and in Atlanta. She is a member of Mayor Bill Campbell's Senior Advisory Board for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Community; a board member of the Atlanta Executive Network (AEN); a board member of the Atlanta PRIDE Committee and a former board member of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum. Joy has provided consultation to The Federation of Gay Games' cultural festival committee and is a graduate of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund's Candidate Training Institute. Joy is blessed with a loving partner who also is the mother of a beautiful 7-year-old daughter, together, they bring plenty of joy into Joy's life.

James Bryant
Board of Directors

James is a native Texan who moved to Atlanta a little over a year ago. He is the Family and Community Sales Representative at Buckhead Jeep Chrysler. James is very active in the Atlanta Gay community. As well as serving on the Board of Directors for APC, he is a coach and sponsor of Buckhead Jeep Wranglers Softball team, a member of Hotlanta Gay Softball League, a member of Atlanta Executive Network, sponsor and supporter of HRC, AID Atlanta, AIDS Survival Project, YouthPride and PALS Bingo. James is an avid sports fan. He coached college football for four years and as a hobby has enjoyed judging several pageants over the last five years.

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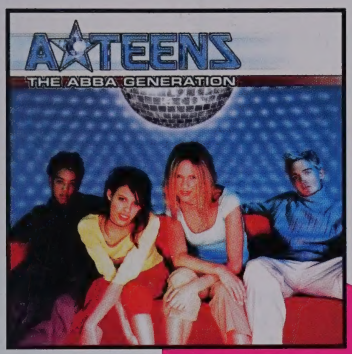

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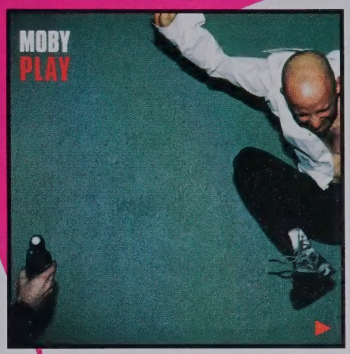

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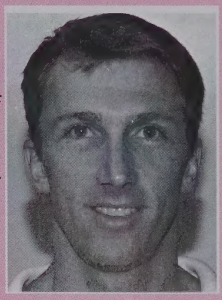
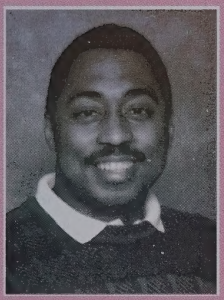
Ashley Carroway
Board of Directors

Ashley Carroway is an attorney. She left a large firm in Birmingham, and moved to Atlanta in 1998 to commence the process of transition from life as a male. She completed that process just before the last millennium ended. Ashley serves as secretary of the Atlanta Pride Committee. She is secretary of the Administrative Council of St. Mark United Methodist Church, and a member of the Finance Committee at St. Mark. She is a director of the One Heart Foundation, and serves as its secretary. She is a member of the Stonewall Bar Association and an honorary member of the Georgia Association of Physicians for Human Rights. She is circle hostess for the InTown Atlanta circle of the Global Renaissance Alliance.

Sean Fitzgerald
Board of Directors



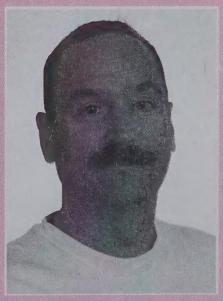
I have been involved with the Atlanta Pride Committee since 1993. We have grown from a few dozen tents at the park and groups marching in our streets to a festival that gives the opportunity for hundreds of community organizations to express themselves in a friendly environment. It has been amazing watching the Festival develop and change over the years. It is a joy working with such a diverse group of people to produce the Atlanta Pride Celebration. Thank you for your support to help us to continue to bring a fresh view of our community to the city of Atlanta each year.



R. Calvin Johnson
Board of Directors

Second Year of the Board of Directors for Pride. Vice Chairman for Church Growth & Evangelism for St. Mark UMC. Associate Member for IBM'S Gay and Lesbian Bi-sexual employee group Eagle. Certified Local Lay Speaker for St. Mark UMC. Member of St. Mark United Methodist Men, Served as Secretary for the Cobb County Coalition 98. Member of Atlanta Executive Network. Member of St. Mark Stewardship Committee. Administrative Council for St. Mark UMC. I look forward to being a part in making this year's pride the best ever.

Al Pellenberg
Board of Directors



Al has worked on PRIDE since before time began. This is his 15th PRIDE, and welcomes all to the 30th time, the lesbain, gay, bisexual and transgendered people of Atlanta have reached a bit further, have looked a little deeper, and have gathered more strength from just taking the time to be with each other. Al's commitment is to make sure that the Festival remains an open forum where those who already celebrate their sexual identity, those who have just discovered their uniqueness and those who have not yet seen THEIR OWN LIGHT, have the opportunity to celebrate, dedicate and emancipate themselves. When not working on the Festival, you can find him and his husband Keat and the two kids Bruno the wonderdog and Bandit the superpuppy playing in the parks of Atlanta.

Sheri Mann Stewart
Board of Directors

Sheri is a third-year Board member of Pride. She is a Bisexual activist and the co-founder of BiNature, a three-year-old monthly support and discussion group for Bis and BiFriendlies. She also serves on the Boards of First Existentialist Congregation, GAPHR (GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights) which honored her with their 1998 Community Service Award, and her family's Strong Roots Organic Farm. As an actor, she has appeared in films, TV, stage & commercials, including such productions as "Dateline NBC" and "My Fellow Americans. She was also a five-day champion on "The $25,000 Pyramid". Sheri is on the faculty of the Alliance Theatre, is Drama Director at The Howard School, and is a private acting coach. She lives with her life partner, Barry Stewart Mann, and 2-year old son, Tendal, in the Lake Claire area of Atlanta in Georgia's first Co-Housing Community.

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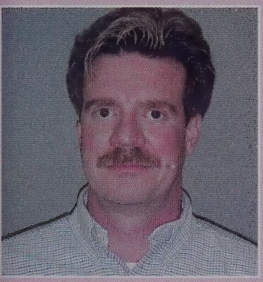
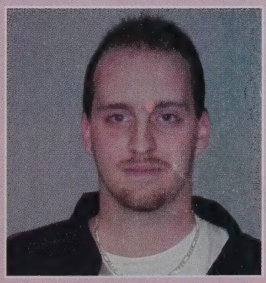
Atlanta Pride Committee Inc.
Festival Committee

Donna Narducci
Executive Director
Donna has been involved in a leadership capacity with the Atlanta Pride Committee since the 1993 festival. She was the Co-Chair of the Board in 1994 and 1995, and became the organization's Executive Director in the fall of 1995. During the time she has served as Executive Director, the Pride Festival has experienced tremendous growth. The Atlanta Pride Celebration is now the largest festival of its kind in the Southeast, and ranks in the top 5 nationally. When Donna is not working on Pride, she enjoys travelling, gardening, and dabbling in "artsy" stuff!

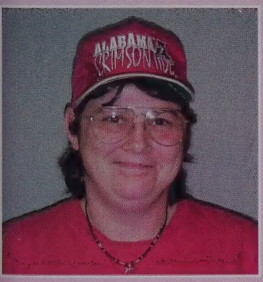
Trisha Clymore
Festival Director
Trisha is excited to be back as Festival Director for a second year. She feels very lucky to be able to work with such a group of committed people who want to see this event keep getting better and better. When not involved with Pride, Trisha enjoys time with her partner and playing with their son Anderson.



Paul Gibson
Director of Finance and Administration
I am very proud to be involved in organizing an event like Atlanta Pride and I love the people I work with. It takes the dedication and hard work of hundreds of people to pull off an event like Atlanta Pride. . . I am just happy to be one of them!



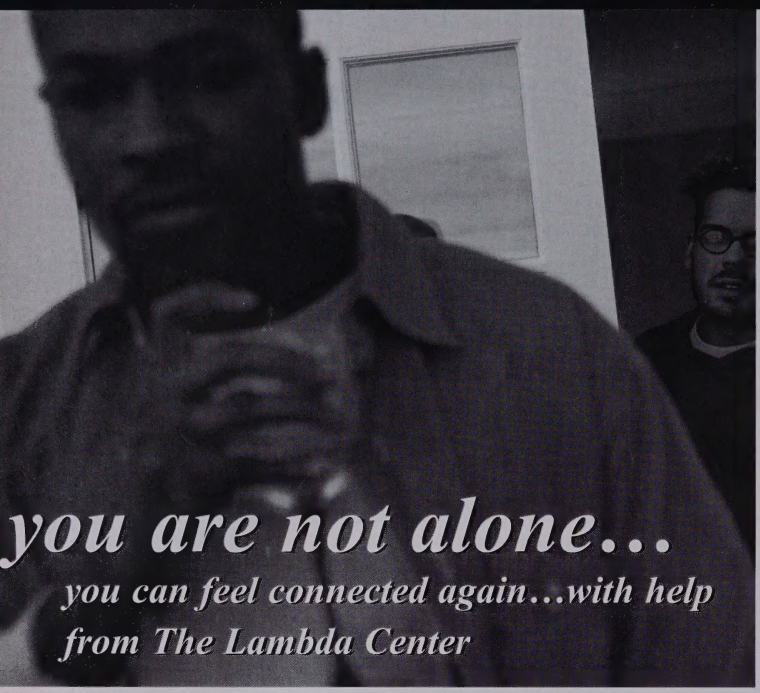
Rob Rogers
Communication
Hello my name is Robert Rogers. I am 28 years old and I am originally from upstate New York. I moved to Georgia in 1991. I have been openly gay since 1992 and been volunteering with the Atlanta Pride Committee for 3 years, and I love every minute of it. I am happily committed to my long-term lover, John Barkley. He is the best thing that has ever happened to me. We enjoy going out to Dave & Buster's, to the clubs, dancing, or just hanging out with friends having cookouts. My lover has been very supportive of my volunteering my time and knowledge with the Atlanta Pride Committee and I must say I give him my thanks and all my love to him for that. I hope that everyone that attends this year's Pride Festival 2000 will have fun, relax, enjoy it and most of all be safe.



Ginger Allen
Communications
I have been volunteering with Atlanta Pride for 2 years however, this is my first year serving as a Co-Chair. I like to have fun such as going to out to the clubs, being around friends and meeting new friends. I also like to take on new challenges and being on the APC will be my first new challenge of the NEW Millinium. My goal is to help make Atlanta Pride 2000 the best one ever and I hope to see you all there and also to make our 30th anniversary a special one as well.

Elizabeth Baldwin
Entertainment
Elizabeth returns to APC for her third year on the committee. This year she serves as Chair of Entertainment for a second time. By day, she is an editor at a local magazine publishing company and is an avid writer. Aside from eventually purchasing her mid-life crisis motorcycle, she looks forward to the future growth and continued quality of Atlanta's Pride celebration.

We now offer evening therapy groups. Call for more information.



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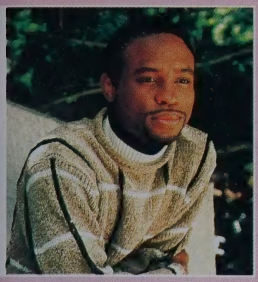


Darryl! Moch
Entertainment

Darryl! is proud to serve as a co-chair for this years Entertainment committee. He is currently the Executive Director of the Atlanta Lambda Center, serves as Editor of Clikque Magazine, leads an therapeutic support group for African-American men, and is the Secretary for the International Federation of Black Prides. Recently ordained, Reverend Darryl!, is also a psychotherapist, educator, and performing artist originally from Los Angeles, currently residing in Atlanta. Additionally, he has been a therapist with severely emotionally disturbed youth and their families, does relationship counseling, advocacy, HIV/STD/TB prevention, counseling with GBLT persons and a host of artistic/performance activities.

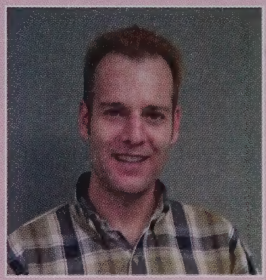
John Badger
Youth and Family

John Badger is excited to be back for his second year co-coordinating Atlanta Pride's Youth and Family Outreach Program. John is currently working with YouthPride as a Community Development Coordinator. His focus is building a strong, empowered queer youth community in Atlanta. John is also committed to empowering and informing more GLBT people to become parents. John has gained a lot of experience working with many local and national organizations.

Jennifer Oestreich
Youth and Family

You know that family presence is powerful at Pride if the infamous Charlie Brown watched her language on stage at Pride 99. Thanks Charlie!! With that, anything is possible in 2000. Coined as the Pied Piper of Pride, Jenn returns to the Children's Kamp for her second year, fourth with the Festival Committee. "I couldn't ask for anything more gratifying let alone inspiring, than to play hard with the kids and be with the energy of their innocence."

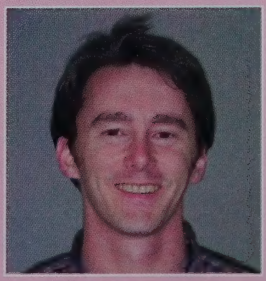
Scott Weiner
Festival Donations



I recently moved from New Orleans to Atlanta searching for new personal and professional challenges in my life and I've definitely found those personal ones. After having attended numerous Pride festivals in the past, I felt it was time to take a more active role in shaping one of Atlanta's most anticipated yearly events. Through my involvement with the Pride Committee, I have met some wonderful and talented people whom I greatly admire for their dedication to making all of us proud of who we are and what we can accomplish together.

Mark Lambert
Logistics

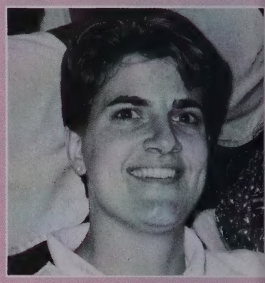
On this, the occasion of Atlanta Pride's 30th Anniversary, I celebrate a personal milestone, my 5th year as one of the Logistics Coordinators. I am proud to have been able to help build the festival into a gathering that people of all ages, colors, identities, and experiences can enjoy. I wish each of you the very best time this weekend. As you walk about the grounds, try to remember your first Pride event. Then, think how far we as a community have come in thirty years. If this is your first Pride event I hope you see how much the BGLT community has to be proud of. Be a part of it, be involved; even small actions can have huge impacts. I hope that I have done my job well enough so that you may enjoy the music, food, shopping and company of friends and "family".



Sean Broderick
Logistics

Volunteering for Pride has rewarded me with a veritable cornucopia of pleasant memories. Not only am I helping in the organization of Atlanta's most fabulous event, but I am remunerating the community that embraced me with loving arms.

Linda Armstrong
Market
Linda loves computers, theater, travel and entertaining. She has spent most of her life in California, where she was a police officer and owner of art galleries. During the week she works for her family's real estate management company and on the weekends she is busy with her church, Christ Covenant MCC in Decatur.



Kathy Volpi Newell
Market
Kathy moved to Atlanta eight years ago with her partner. She has participated in PRIDE each year as a spectator and is excited to be a part of the Festival Committee for a second year. Kathy is an Occupational Therapist working in Physical rehabilitation. She enjoys traveling, sports and quiet time at home with her family.

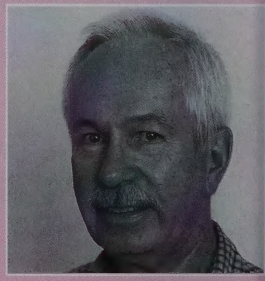
Sabrina Bartlett
Parade
Sabrina is pleased to be co-chairing this year's Pride parade. Sabrina is a dedicated member of Christ Covenant MCC and works at the Neighborhood Playhouse full-time as the Business Manager. Sabrina is excited about the opportunity to support the cause in such a special way. She hopes everyone enjoys this year's event and hopes to continue volunteering in her community.

Micki Hibbs
Parade
Micki is pleased to be returning to Pride for her second year. Last year she volunteered for the Market and this year she has taken on co-chairing the parade. By day, Micki is the Operations Manager for the Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur, where she formerly served as a Board Member for ten years. She is also active in her church Christ Covenant MCC in Decatur. She looks forward to a spectacular and safe parade for both attendants and participants.

Steven Maskell
Volunteers
Steven was born and raised in South Africa. He has lived in Europe and Latin America and for the last 8 years has called Atlanta home. Steven moved to Atlanta to participate in the Centennial Olympic Games. He grew to love the city and decided not to move on after the Games. Steven is active in grass roots community organizations and sees the Pride Committee as being an ideal way to contribute to our diverse community.

Tim Black
Volunteers
Tim is a 28-year-old architectural professional, with seven years of experience. While earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in Architecture from Georgia Tech, he interned with a major international lender, assisting in the management of a construction portfolio with 278 commercial and multi-family properties. After graduation, he worked with the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of America, in building services. He currently works for a commercial architecture firm in Gwinnett County as a project manager and designer, with hotel, child-care, civic and retail projects. Tim was also a member of the Boy Scouts, and the Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. A military child, he was raised abroad in Germany and India. In addition to the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, and the Boy Scouts, Tim also volunteered time to the local military health clinics. Tim resides in Gwinnett County with his widowed father, three cats, and a pig named Rupert.

Eric Harkness
Cultural Celebration
For some time I have felt that both gays and straights should be more aware of our contributions to the visual and performing arts. Perhaps more important is the need to celebrate their work, lives and homosexuality. It is amazing the number of LGBT people who have and are making major contributions to the arts. At the same time, our community and the community at large is pitifully ignorant of our history. In 1996, with this in mind, I presented my ideas to the Atlanta Pride Committee who agreed to start widening the mission and purpose of Atlanta Pride to a month-long spotlight on LGBT art and history. And, as they say, ...the rest is history.



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Children's **Kamp**

Location: At the Moonwalk near the food court

The programming for this area of the festival was designed to provide an interactive family environment. In order for the Children's Kamp to be a fun, and safe environment for all, we ask that you supervise your child while s/he participates in these activities. Thank you for your cooperation!

Hours of Operation: Saturday 11:00am – 6:00pm, Sunday 12:00n – 6:00pm

Moonwalk open and available to kids during operating hours.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH

11:00am – 1:00pm WELCOME

Building a Future Today Picnic: Future mommies and daddies are welcome to mix and mingle with parents and kids. Experts in the field of raising a child in a gay family, adoption, and donor insemination programs will be available in a casual atmosphere for Q&A.

FUN FOOD for the kids too…you'll be amazed at the fun ways these guys serve it up!!!

Kids weekend activities sign-up ages:
new-2yrs, 3 – 7yrs, 8 – 12yrs

GOODIE BAG giveaways!

11:00am – 3:00pm KID CARE PHOTO ID PROGRAM

New this year is the addition of a Child Photo Identification Program designed by the Center for Missing & Exploited Children. With the Kid Care program we hope to raise awareness and allow parents to have the tools necessary if placed in this unfortunate circumstance.

12:00n – 3:00pm MISS T-CUP

The lovely clown Miss T-Cup will be joining us at the picnic full of surprises for the kids, including "kids at heart". Don't miss out on this one – plenty of face paint and balloon animals for all!

2:00pm – 4:00pm LET THE GAMES BEGIN

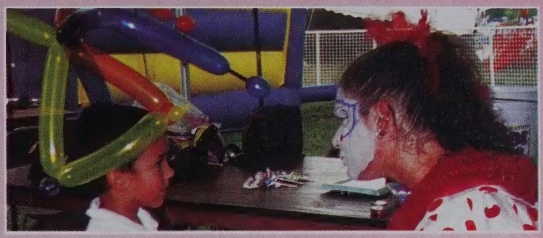
Field Day Atlanta Pride Style! Join us for parent/child games, and specific age group activities.
Space is limited, so sign up by 1:00pm please!

4:00pm – 6:00pm MAKING MEMORIES

Keeping with the spirit of "Building a Future Today", the Children's Kamp invites you and your child to create your Atlanta Pride memories by designing your very own brick. (as of press time we are looking for a park to adopt and place the decorated bricks in)

4:00pm – 6:00pm FREE TIME/QUIET TIME/PLAY TIME

Jump around in the moonwalk or just hang out in the shade.



SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH

12:00n – 3:00pm KID CARE PHOTO ID PROGRAM

New this year is the addition of a Child Photo Identification Program designed by the Center for Missing & Exploited Children. With the Kid Care program we hope to raise awareness and allow parents to have the tools necessary if placed in this unfortunate circumstance.

2:00pm – 4:00pm MISS T-CUP

The lovely clown Miss T-Cup will be joining us at the picnic full of surprises for the kids, including "kids at heart". Don't miss out on this one – plenty of face paint and balloon animals for all – Last chance – don't miss it!

3:00pm – 6:00pm GAMES, GAMES, GAMES

What a better way to cool off on Sunday than to sign up for the water balloon toss and other great kids games.

3:00pm – 6:00pm ARTS & CRAFTS

Atlanta Pride wants you and the kids to have lasting memories of our 30th Anniversary so, with that in mind, make sure you stop by and allow us to leave a lasting impression on you…Surprise!!!

4:00pm – 6:00pm GRAND FINALE

Story telling, puppet shows, musical acts – we'll end with a big bang!

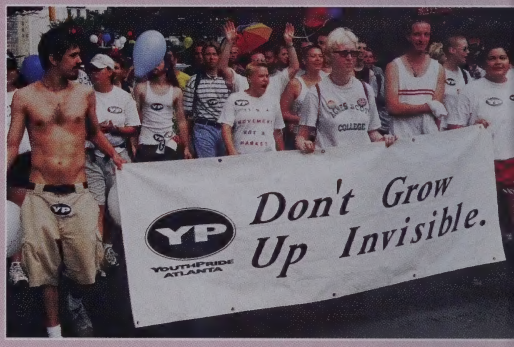
Many thanks to all of our volunteers and performers who will be helping out with Children's Kamp this year, you all are great!!!

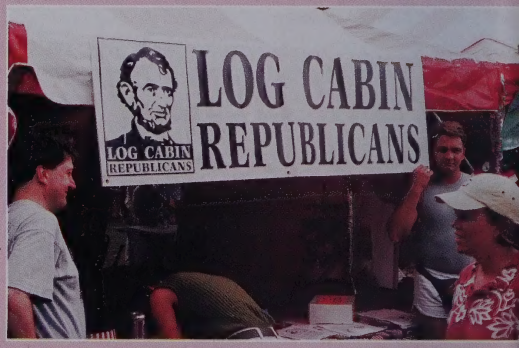
Community **Builders**

The Atlanta Pride Committee introduces a new recognition program to honor members of Atlanta's LGBT organizations. The APC put out a call to community organizations asking them to nominate someone from within their organization who had been an asset to that organization and should be recognized as a Community Builder.

The individuals listed on this page represent a portion of the many diverse community organizations here in Atlanta. We are thankful to these individuals for the work that they do and for the impact that they have made in our community. You'll see them in the park PRIDE weekend in their Community Builders shirts, and when you do, tell them **"Thanks!"**

Individual Name	Organization
Charles Bobo, II	Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Bob Salo	Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus
Johnny Heath, Jr.	Georgia Log Cabin Republicans
Judy Colbs	P-FLAG Atlanta
Michael Watson	First MCC Atlanta
Rev. Lanny Peters	Rainbow Fellowship of Oakhurst Baptist Church
Sheri Mann Stewart	BiNature
Renna Baranan	BiNet
Bruce Davidson	Project Open Hand
Frank Puckett	SouthEast Leatherfest
Chris Hightower	AIDGwinnett
Kathleen Krzastek	Women's Outdoor Network
Sean Fitzgerald	Atlanta Rainbow Trout
Harry Harkins, Jr.	Lamba Legal Defense and Education Fund
Father John Adamski	Dignity / Atlanta
Sandra Kolka	Positive Impact, Inc.
Lawrie Demorest	Human Rights Campaign
Allen Jones	Atlanta Executive Network
Linda McGehee	Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative
Brandon Ross Abernathy	Absolutely Positive+
Eileen Stone	Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus
James Marks, Jr.	PALS
Linda Ellis	YouthPride
Lynn Shepodd	Georgia Equality Project
Bruce Garner	AIDS Treatment Initiatives
Sarah Austin	GLSEN Atlanta





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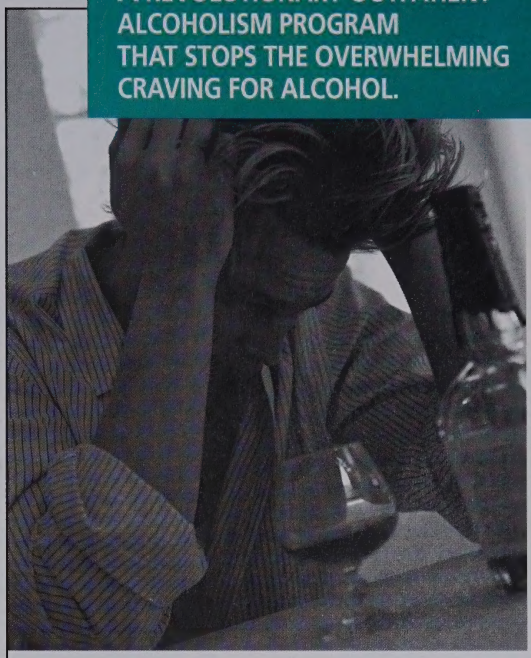

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Pride Guide to

by Erik M. Friedly

Tired of Pensacola and South Beach? Does Fire Island no longer light your fire? Does the thought of another long, humid weekend in Atlanta give you the chills? Then pack your rainbow-striped knapsack or wheel out your Louis Vuitton steamer trunk (it's up to you) and check out some fresh ideas for the savvy gay traveler. Near or far, there's plenty to do under the sun, and we've got a few suggestions.

Gay Days at Disney

Let's start close to home with an event celebrating its 10th anniversary this year: Gay Days 2000 at Walt Disney World (official website: www.gayday.com www.gayday.com) in Orlando, Florida. What began as an entirely informal gathering of friends in June 1991 has developed into one of the largest and best-attended annual gay and lesbian destination events and is expected to attract as many as 150,000 gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, family members and friends this year. Thanks to paranoid media reaction and the ensuing word-of-mouth buzz, 1991's weekend party was attended by over 2,500 people and guaranteed its return the following year. This event is now so popular that late-arrivals to the Magic Kingdom, the "heart" of Disney World, may have to opt for a visit to one of the other parks: Disney-MGM Studios, EPCOT, or Animal Kingdom. Neighboring attractions like Universal Studios, Sea World, and even Tampa's Busch Gardens have now joined the fun, so there's room for everybody.

Most events take place on the weekend proper (this year, June 3 and 4), but things get started as early the preceding Tuesday for those who want to make a week of it. And many do.

If you tire of the Magic Kingdomís spinning teacups and wild rides or EPCOT's Future World, check out the Gay Days Savoir FAIR at the Wyndham Palace Resort & Spa, a gathering of about 50 carefully selected exhibitors and vendors featuring jewelry, books, and clothing for sale, as well as tattooing, psychic readings and live music. Or stop by the annual Bears Gathering at the Magic Kingdom's Country Bear Jamboree for some manly fun and frolic.

When the sun goes down, things really heat up. Downtown Disney's Pleasure Island in Lake Buena Vista is "party central" throughout Gay Days. This massive entertainment complex offers something for every taste (comedy, jazz, country, R&B, rock, and, of course, disco) in a variety of friendly, state-of-the-art nightclubs. The two most popular (and generally packed) clubs during Gay Days are Mannequins Dance Palace and 8Trax, but all of Pleasure Island usually turns into one big street party for the duration. And, best of all, the Pleasure Island clubs offer bar service while you wait in line!

Gay Travel

Orlando's venerable Parliament House resort gets in on the action big time with everything from an official welcome event to a "Foam Party" featuring (what else?) half-naked men partying in a sea of foam, while the popular Southern Nights disco keeps the action HOT all week.

Gay Days are always crowded, so be prepared. Carpool if possible or use bus transportation when provided. Again, the Magic Kingdom is likely to reach capacity early in the day, so be flexible. All of the Disney parks and nearby attractions will be festive. Temperatures are likely to be in the 90s, so dress comfortably. But remember, Disney does enforce its dress code policy. Guests must wear a shirt at all times, and clothing should not bear any potentially offensive words or comments. The shirt-on policy is relaxed a bit inside Mannequins and 8Trax during the Gay Days weekend, so there will still be plenty of opportunities to show off those gym-hardened pecs (though ladies wishing to do so may still encounter some opposition).

Again, Gay Days at Disney becomes more popular each year, so plan ahead. But with the variety and number of resort options and tourist accommodations in the area and Disney's fine level of services, Gay Days are a great travel option.

Folsom Street Fair

Next, we go west, young man, for San Francisco's legendary Folsom Street Fair (official website: HYPERLINK http://www.folsomstreetfair.com www.folsomstreetfair.com), now in its 17th year. Folsom Street Fair 2000 will be held on September 24 and caps the annual "Leather Pride Week" in the Bay City. What is the Folsom Street Fair, you ask? Well, when the San Francisco Guardian declared it the city's "Best Street Fair" in 1999, the newspaper explained it this way: "the Fair tends to bring out into the street the kinds of things people generally keep in their bedrooms, or, more precisely, their S-M dens. If you like checking out corset-compressed breasts and/or bare butts framed by black leather chaps, you'll want to stop by the bondage and leather community's annual bash." The Fair is organized by SMMILE, the South of Market Merchants' and Individuals' Lifestyles Events group, a nonprofit serving the city's alternative communities. Proceeds from the production of the Folsom Street Fair go to a number of community service organizations and AIDS-related charities (Last year's Fair raised over $215,000 for these groups.)

"Leather Pride Week" is eight days of intense activities celebrating-you guessed it-leather. The South of Market area's many bars and nightclubs hold parties and events throughout the week with the Fair being the crowning finale. Nearly 300,000 leather-lovers from around the globe attend Leather Pride Week events annually, so if leather's your cup-of-tea, this is your event.

Of course, a trip to San Franciscoís Folsom Street Fair can include much more than what's contained within the five blocks of Folsom Street between 7th and 12th. San Francisco is, of course, THE gay mecca any day of the year and offers tons to do and see.

The San Francisco Bay area is justifiably famous for its restaurant scene with good food available throughout the entire city. Touristy Fishermen's Wharf and the magnificent Golden Gate Bridge are logical first-stops on any first visit to the city. While gay nightlife is of course extensive, it's centered in three areas: the world-famous Castro, the South of Market district, and the Polk Street area. Most of the leather-oriented bars (and, in San Francisco, they're serious about their leather) are in the South of Market area, but you'll find plenty to tickle your leather-fancy in the Castro and Polk Street too.

Talk about organized! The Folsom Street Fair has an official airline, United, that's offering discounts for advance purchases, while the city's Ramada Plaza Hotel is offering special room rates to attendees of the event who call the hotel directly and mention the Folsom Street Fair.

San Francisco's weather is generally quite mild and pleasant, though late-September may have some cool nights. (What else are leather jackets for?)

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The Folsom Street Fair offers a unique look at the city's leather and bondage community that's worth checking out even if you don't own a single pair of chaps. And San Francisco makes for a great trip anytime.

World Pride Roma 2000

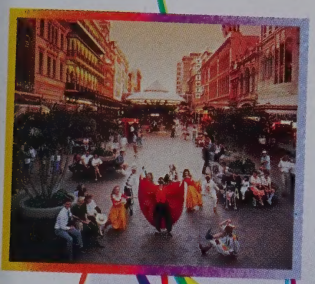
For the more ambitious, international traveler, may we suggest a visit to the Eternal City, Rome, for the World Pride celebration held July 1-9. World Pride 2000 (official website at www.worldpride2000.com) holds special significance as it coincides with the Roman Catholic "Year of Jubilee" during which hundreds of thousands of Catholics will flock to the Vatican. World Pride 2000 comes to Rome in hopes of demonstrating a counter-balance of tolerance and equal rights for all people while hosting one of the biggest gay parties on the planet.

Last year's Pride events in Rome attracted over 10,000 gay men and lesbians to the ancient city, so expect an even bigger turnout for this year's international event. World Pride 2000 will feature sporting events, special film screenings, theatrical productions, LOTS of parties, conferences, fashion shows, and art exhibitions. The event culminates in a massive, festive, and colorful march/parade through the city's historic center on Saturday. Last year's energetic crowd chanted, "Oggi Roma e tutta gay!" (Today, Rome is completely gay!), and, from the looks of it, they were right.

Of course, Rome is among the world's most enchanting cities and offers the traveler limitless opportunities. As the cradle of western civilization, the city is a living, breathing museum of classical history. Check out the magnificent ruins of the Forum (site of last year's open-air fashion show) and the awe-inspiring wonder of the Colosseum. It's virtually impossible to have a bad meal in Italy at any price, the weather is delightful much of the year, and the shopping (especially for shoes!) is justifiably famous. So where better to celebrate the first World Pride event of the new millennium?

Bear in mind that a trip like this won't be cheap, so plan accordingly. Some four-day packages from Atlanta start at around $2,000, and that doesn't include visits to Gucci or pilgrimages to nearby Florence to see Michelangelo's David. But Rome hasn't been around for 2,000 years for nothing. World Pride 2000 would be a trip well worth taking.

Australia & New Zealand



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Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras

Now, for the truly ambitious and seasoned gay traveler, even Rome may be passé In that case, they may wish to consider going "down under" for one of the biggest bashes the gay-world has to offer: the annual Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras in Sydney, Australia (official website: www.mardigras.com.au), held each year in late February/early March. The weeklong event now attracts over 650,000 gay men and lesbians from around the world.

In June 1978, about 1,000 people marched down Sydney's Oxford Street in honor of International Gay Solidarity Day. A near-riot broke out after the police revoked the parade permit and over 50 people were arrested. The following year, another parade was held and the "Mardi Gras" name was first used. By 1981, Mardi Gras had been moved to March (summertime in Australia) and had become a full-fledged celebration. A 1998 economic impact study of the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras demonstrated a total economic impact on the city of $99 million (Australian dollars) -not bad for an impromptu street riot.

Last year's event included an elaborate variety show featuring theatre, comedy, music, dance and cabaret performances inside the magnificent State Theatre; an outdoor Festival Concert; the infamous Mardi Gras Pool Party held in the massive Victoria Park Swimming Pool; a festive celebration of the Chinese New Year; and an all-day, over-the-top drag event known as "Frocks."

But of course the highlights of Sydney's Mardi Gras celebration are the annual Parade and Party held on Saturday and well into Sunday. Oxford Street comes alive as half a million revelers take to the streets for what is perhaps the world's most famous celebration of gay and lesbian pride and Australia's largest outdoor event. Politics and entertainment collide in one raucous, unforgettable, sweaty statement of pride. At the end of the parade route lies "The Party," where upwards of 20,000 revelers gather in Sydney's Moore Park to quite simply dance the night – and some of the next day – away in a celebration of Bacchanalian indulgence.

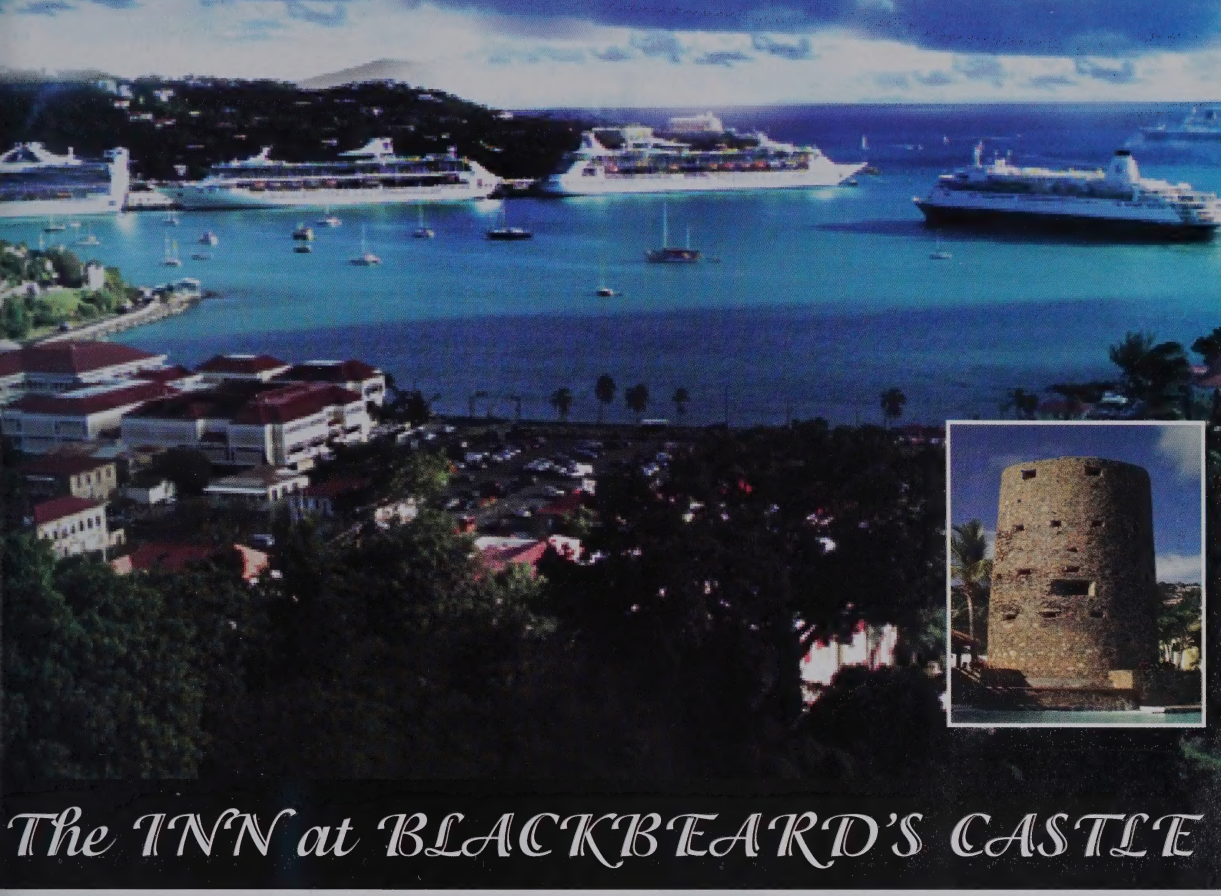
And don't believe the land Down Under is too far away. American companies like Swain Tours of Pennsylvania take all the fear out of long-haul travel.

Of course, Mardi Gras also offers plenty of community programs, seminars, fun runs, tennis tournaments, witty debates, and even a "Day of Buddhist meditation."

But who cares? This is about a party.

From the wholesome to the debauched; from the historic to the hysterical; from the sun-drenched to the gin-soaked; Gay Days at Disney, the Folsom Street Fair, World Pride Roma 2000, and the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras run the gamut. So start packing, you've got a busy schedule!

Erik Friedly is a public relations professional and part time writer who lives in Atlanta. In his free time, he cares for an aging Scottish Terrier and listens to lots of old Scott Walker albums.



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Atlanta Pride Celebration
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THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Good **mixers**

Summer cocktail recipes for the after-party party

CHICHI
1 oz Stolichnaya
4 oz Pineapple Juice
1 oz Coconut cream
1/2 Cup crushed ice
Blend serve in Zombie or
Specialty glass
Pineapple spear and cherry
Long straw

BLOODY CAESAR
1 1/2 oz Stolichnaya
Clamato juice
Dashes of Worcestershire,
Tabasco, Lime juice & Salt
Salt rim of Collins glass
using a lime wedge to wet rim
Build on cubed ice
Vodka, Clamato to 1/2" from top
Celery salt, Lime wedge
Straw

TEQUILA SUNRISE
1 oz José Cuervo
Orange Juice
Grenadine
Build in a Highball on cubed ice
José Cuervo, orange juice until 1/2" from top
Dash Grenadine
Do not stir
Orange slice and cherry pick
Straw

Stolichnaya vodka

Jose Cuervo

STRAWBERRY MARGUERITA
1 oz José Cuervo
1/2 Triple Sec
1 1/2 Lime Mix
4 Strawberries
Salted rim
Blend, serve in Specialty or Poco glass
Straw

MELON BALL
1 oz Stolichnaya
1/2 oz Melon Liqueur
1/2 oz Pineapple Juice
1/2 oz Orange Juice

BLUE MONDAY
1 oz Stolichnaya
1 oz Blue Curacao
7 up
Build into Zombie glass on cubed ice
Lemon and cherry
Straw

BLUE HAWAII
1 oz Stolichnaya
1 oz Blue Curacao
1 1/2 oz Lemon Mix
3 oz Pineapple Juice
1/2 cup crushed ice
Blend, serve in Poco or Collins glass
Pineapple spear and cherry
Long straw

KAMIKAZE
1 oz Stolichnaya
1/2 oz Triple Sec
1 oz Lime Juice
Shake and Strain into Cocktail glass

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WHY ?

Thirty years ago, the first PRIDE march was held in Atlanta. No one is sure of the exact number of marchers, some say 30 some say 130, but the fact is that many of those who marched were forced, out of fear, to wear paper bags over their heads to protect their identity. It almost sounds funny doesn't it? Gay men and women marching in Atlanta, wearing bags to disguise themselves. Some lost jobs, some were alienated from their families and some faced extreme prejudice for just being themselves ...BUT THEY MARCHED.... They found a sense of solidarity and community and over the years Atlanta PRIDE grew and the bags have disappeared.... Well they have for many of us.

Some folks tell us that the PRIDE event is irrelevant, that the RAINBOW Flag is not fashionable, and that being out and open and Building OUR Future TOGETHER is not important. Without the visible effect that a gathering of hundreds of thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered people brings to our community, the gains and the advances and the things we know are NORMAL could well disappear. Listen to the political rhetoric surrounding the 2000 Presidential Nomination and Campaign and then ask yourself again... Does PRIDE really matter?

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Recognition from the Stage on Sat and Sunday
Friends of Pride Commemorative Pin

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YELLOW $100 ☐
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ORANGE $50 ☐
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House into Home

By Bill Murphy

So, you've come to Atlanta for Pride and like so many others have decided to call the Big Peach home. Or you've taken a tour of one of our trés gay cozy neighborhoods and are calling the numbers on the real estate signs. Or tired of lots of little rooms and want the spaciousness of a loft? Or, just dug in your heels in your current digs, and realize it's time to really make it your own?

What next?

With an architecture degree from Georgia Tech and a good long former career in design, planning a new home for me is pretty simple – well, at least manageable. But currently, my best friend is in the process of buying a new home, and we were discussing how the house would work and what renovations should be done in the process of developing a master plan- turning house into home. I was evaluating his needs and lifestyle and he was discussing where his collection of airline memorabilia would go.

Oh, dear.

Pardon the stereotype, but we do have the best looking homes – or if it's not ours, we1ve decorated it. It's true. I've known maybe three queer people in my life who had ugly houses – and trust me, I know a lot of people. From yard sale chic to rare antiques, nobody can do it with the style we can. And I know my best friend would have that house looking fabulous in no time.

But does it work? Hmmm...

Therefore, I've enlisted a former teaching colleague of mine to help me recreate Design 101 – a primer of sorts on how to truly turn house into home. Final projects may be submitted for design review.

Step One: The Master Plan: No, I'm not skipping to the dungeon on this one. Read on. For now, forget about color, contemporary or traditional, and what kind of guest towels. You first need to analyze – honestly, dear – how you live. Do you seriously cook or nuke? If you run by Harry's in a Hurry on the way home, you don't need an elaborate kitchen. If you have lots of large parties, that studio penthouse albeit with great view, ain't gonna get it. I know you're popular, but how often are eleven other people really going to join you in that jacuzzi? Do you have pets? Kids? Make a list of your activities and needs. Inventory what you have that you do use, and what things would improve the quality of your life. Figure, realistically, how much time you have to spend on things around the house. Spend two weeks keeping a journal of your current home. Jot down the things you like and the things that drive you up the walls. Compile this information into four lists: Must have, would be nice, not necessary, and not in my house. When you check out new home possibilities, take this list with you and evaluate how it meets your criteria. Even better – if you are working with a real estate agent – and we have lots of good gay ones here – go over your list with them so they can best find a home to suit your needs.

If you are looking at new construction, you can probably find something that will suit your lifestyle. If you are looking at older properties, chances are you are going to have to do some renovation work. We just don't live the way people did eighty years ago.

Step Two: Preliminary Design: If you are going to be doing renovations, please hire a professional. Do you

extract your own teeth? Conduct your own church services? Cut your own hair? Invite 300,000 people to your backyard for Pride? I think not. Find someone you feel comfortable with and who feels comfortable with you. If aforesaid dungeon is an important part of your lifestyle, make sure you both feel at ease discussing that. In the closet with your shoe collection? Not now – it's time to fess up. Running short on cash? Be realistic in discussing your budget. Housing is generally the most expensive item in your budget, so make sure you get the most for your money, namely a home that works for you. And with all the homework you have done, planning becomes much easier.

Step Three: Design Development: This is the fine tuning part – nailing all the details into place. Where do you need electrical outlets? Of course you want bookcases, but how many running feet do you need? Plan for good lighting. Pick out fixtures and appliances. Decide on finishes and millwork. What kind of flooring for which areas best suits your lifestyle? Make sure storage is ample and well planned. Next, inventory your current furnishings, and decide what stays and what goes. Take measurements of all the pieces that remain - there's nothing worse than thinking the 842 sofa will fit on the 782 wall- even though I once had a (straight) client who insisted we could just "scrunch it up a bit, it'll be fine.'

You can now start placing furniture on the floor plan. For novices, grid paper works well, for more seasoned professionals, an architectural scale is a good tool. Buy a roll of cheap tracing paper and experiment with different combinations and arrangements.

There are some important basic rules on furniture placement:

Every seat needs access to a surface. How many times have you been holding a drink when someone gives you something to look at and you are trying to balance a glass on your lap?

People relate better in conversation when sitting at right angles to each other. It's hard to look at someone when you are on a sofa both facing straight ahead, and face to face is a little intimidating. We want conversation, not interrogation.

Seating heights should all be the same, unless you are a control freak and need to be above everyone on your throne.

Three feet is minimum distance from a dining table to a wall or piece of furniture. It is much more pleasant to be able to get to your chair without crawling over the table.

When two people are occupying a bed, the surface rule applies. Anyone who has been rudely awakened by their partner crawling over them to see the alarm clock will understand.

Keep these simple guidelines in mind, and then let your creative juices flow!

Next, we are ready for color selections, and on this I defer to Rebecca, as this is her field of expertise:

Have you ever been BLUE?
Were you ever so mad you saw RED?
Ever been BLACKMAILED?

Color surrounds us and elicits unconscious responses, pervading EVERY element of our existence. Generally we are not aware of our quick reaction – positive or negative – to color.

The phrases above have more meaning than meets the eye, for color affects us ... mentally ... physically ... and spiritually.

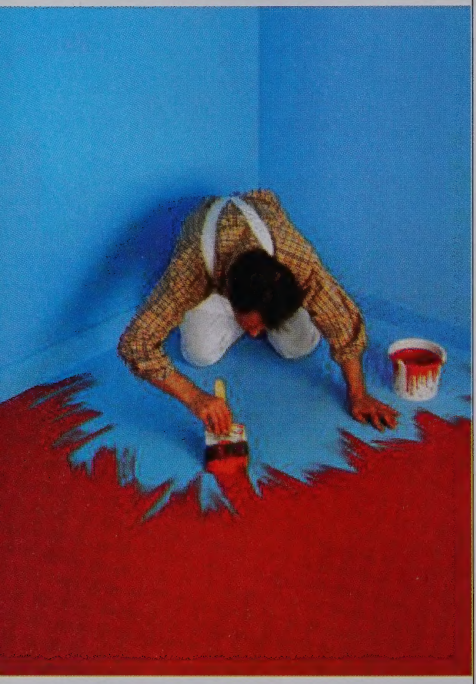
Color is a part of the electromagnetic energy spectrum, and like the other frequencies in this spectrum, it demands a reaction from the human body. We know that vibratory resonance occurs between the body and any frequency; color is no exception. Just as music effects human cellular vibration (Rock music tends make us tense and rigid, while Baroque or easy jazz encourages us to relax in repose), color creates specific reactions.

My realization of color's power came a few years back in dealing with a group of blind women. Three of this group of four could identify color by touch: be it baby blue, french blue, navy blue, or royal blue; they could tell me it was blue. Mint green, kelly green, hunter green or lime green; they could identify it as green. One of the women was sighted at birth and lost sight at the age of two. The other three women had never experienced vision. Frankly, I was frightened by it. My training in architecture and interior design had left me believing color was fluff: one of those passing, feminine fancies...this year fuschia... next year teal. Yet if these women could recognize color tactically, it had to impact us more strongly than I was led to believe!

House into Home

My sincere study of color began that moment. Results of much research is available to us, and documentation of human response to color continues. Following is a sampling of how color can support your practice.

Red increases physical strength and endurance, increases the respiratory rate, and increases blood pressure. It revs us up, making us fidgety, anxious, and sometimes angry. In addition, it makes time seem to pass slowly, slowly, slowly. It is an outstanding color for a gym or a fast food restaurant, and a poor choice for a reception area!



Human response to blue is the polarity of red; blue slows most all of the body's systems, encouraging feelings of calm and relaxation. Because it also inspires trust, loyalty, sincerity and responsibility, blue – especially navy is the real power color in our culture. Blue makes time seem to pass more quickly, thus it is a wonderful color to work with in a reception area.

Flesh-tone pinks (such as the mauve that has been so prevalent this decade) have been found to inhibit the secretion of adrenaline; therefore they are natural stress-reducers. (Perhaps you'll recall the study performed in California prisons a few years ago. Pink was used in holding cells for belligerent prisoners. Within 20 minutes or so, it was as if the prisoner had been chemically sedated.) Ideal for treatment and reception rooms, pinks will aid in soothing patient anxiety. They also enhance the body's craving for sugar, so it is not ideal for break rooms or kitchens!

Yellow, considered cheerful by most people, has so many annoying qualities that it must be used with discretion. Tinted to a pale yellow or used in small quantities it can be effective in encouraging people to talk. But don't paint the walls a bright cheerful yellow for one who spends time on the phone for collections! Yellow, more than any other color, increases irritability and hostility! On a positive note, yellow encourages memory retention and recall. Thus, most highlighters sold are yellow (though any color aids memory), and yellow is still the best color for legal pads. Have you noticed that we tend to remember things which annoyed us long past things which we found pleasure in?

It is interesting to note that the color palate most appropriate for a medical practice would likely be inappropriate for another professional such as an attorney or accountant. The calming colors so good for a physician's office would be cold and impersonal for another profession. The examples just mentioned generally require a warmer, active palette, for their success depends on the client's disclosure of information. And the deep rich colors so conclusive to disclosure are likely to produce anxiety for your patients.

Again, the phrases cited earlier hold much truth. We think of them as worn out antidotes, but they have endured the test of time and still communicate accurately an emotional or physical state.

By applying this information, you con create the type of color atmosphere you want for your home. Want to know more? Rebecca can be reached at Rebecca_Ewing@atlmug.org

We've given you the tools to use on how to make your new home all that it can be! But far be it from us to intrude on your creative process – it's now up to you to let that rainbow spirit of creative design soar! We bet it will be fabulous – maybe not so much so that you want to invite three hundred thousand people over next year for Pride, but you sure will have turned house into home!

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Summer enovations

By Duncan L. Teague

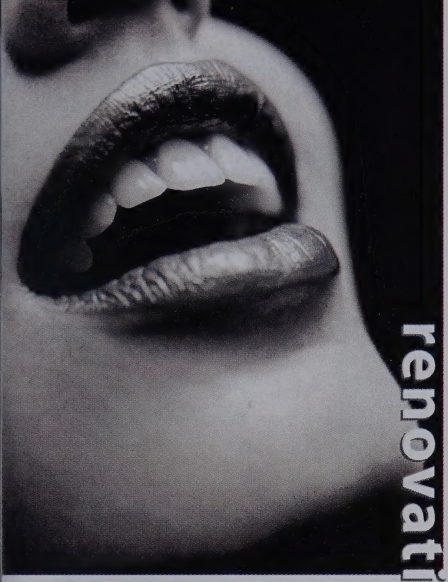
Do I need a make-over? If I do will I admit it in print with a photo to prove it?! Maybe they will let me keep some expensive new duds and I can use an alias. Well, one is always willing to improve, but publicly does cause me to pause and reflect on the effects of the "Before" and the "After"in this fashionable life. According to a very respected queer writer-friend, excuse me, used-to-be-friend, "Miss Amethyst was perfect in every way," but I, in my everyday life as Duncan, needed a make-over. At that point my phone went dead for some unknown reason.

The "Atlanta Look", along with the concept of a "make-over" has, also given me pause and concern, as I mentally pictured all the homosexual-inspired trends in attire that have passed by my eyes on the street, in the bars, at the meetings, during the arrest*, and other queer related activities here in the Jewel of the South. I realized that in this new millennium there was not one prevailing "gay look." Well, there is the ever popular taking the shirt off. I appreciate this fashion or lack of in the right light, with the right person displaying their personal concern a 0nd commitment for a healthy, dancing, taut, hard, sweaty ... oh, excuse me.

Something about this freedom of styles feels very appropriate. Let's be truthful. Many of the fashions that paraded by as "the look" were not appropriate or flattering on me or Amethyst. Too tight, too loose and too bright, always revealed more of the truth than I thought necessary. This personalized eclectic style we have now also allows this capital of Georgia, (yes dears, this is the capital of Georgia) to loosen its conservative grip on fashion, just a tad bit.

I was informed that Wall Street is casually dressed all week to keep the employees from going West to the multimillion dollar microchip havens, where ties are worn only on out-of-town business trips. I was also informed that a local county entity office just, these past few months, got casual Fridays. We would hate for them to get a trend while it is new.

According to the sales records of many department stores the number one market for the men's standard button-down white oxford cotton shirt is right here in Hotlanta. So, we were pleased when we saw a fellow attractive, African-American gay activist arrive at an evening function, without the stop home from work, wearing the new deep blue shirt with an exact matching tie



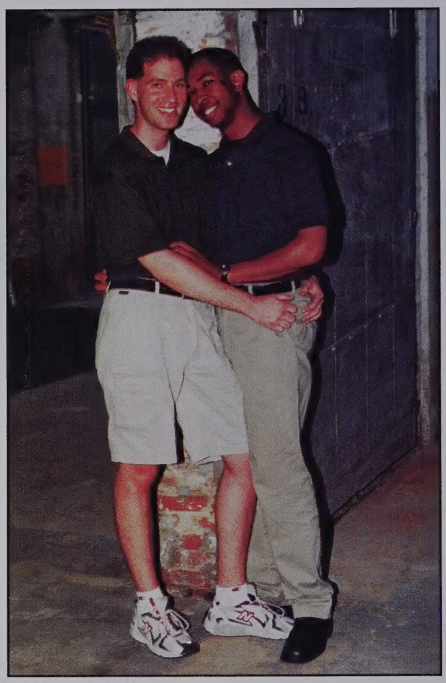
renovations

with his tri-button navy suit. Hot, just a Hot look!

It was slimming and dapper. Two qualities I adore these days, since we put the skinny queen look behind us. I had jealous visions of that blue on blue look when I submitted to endure a "make-over." This Blue period is wonderful and just the rebellion an Atlanta gay man or lesbian can launch in the office and get compliments for it. The whole solid tie, with matching a solid shirt thing is still working from last fall. Just keep the colors in the appropriate season. Pastels for summer and spring, switch back to the deeper tones for fall should the look survive. Whatever you do, do not wear the white tie with the white shirt. It is an accident at ye ole copier waiting to happen.

The vast choice in styles gave someone in the Editorial Department the notion that we could not only display some fashions appropriate for lesbigay and transgendered life here in summer Atlanta but we could also show off some of our finest workers in the community in their own garb and make them over to our own liking. Well, submitting to this renovation was enough, but redecorating someone else is an entirely different set of neurosis, from which so many of us suffer. Admit it, we have all wanted to redo a lover, ex-lover, boss, co-worker or good girlfriend for their own good and our own sense of Pride in being competent and stylish gays. Most of us have done it. Admit it, you'll feel better. So we were able to con some hardworking known characters into this "make-over" madness. Mssrs. DyShaun Muhammad and Jeremy Black, and Ms. Aida Rentas. Along with Moi.

renovations



Jeremy Black and DyShaun Muhammad: Before

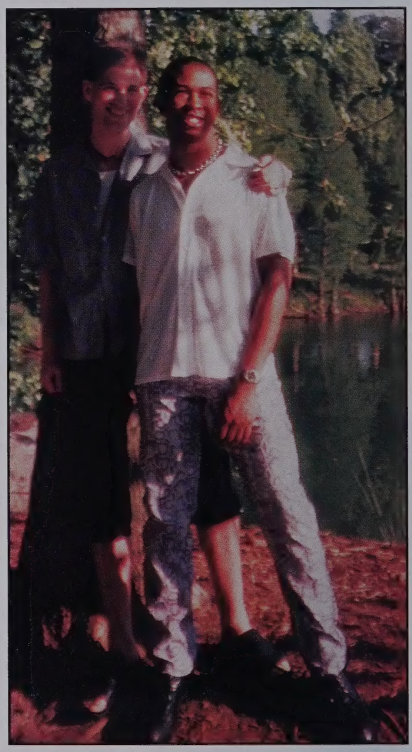
Clean cut, handsome, upstanding responsible, young gay men, why leave them that way? We decided that Councilperson Cathy Woolard's Chief of Staff, DyShaun Muhammad and his lover, Jeremy Black, could use some shaking up- gay style. These young men arrived from work dressed in comfortable stylish matching attire. So cute. Jeremy heads the Auxiliary Services for the Atlanta College of Art so he can dress essentially for any emergency and prefers khaki walking shorts. DyShaun has some flexibility, but prefers the preppy look even when he is casual.

Jeremy and DyShaun: After

They need a break. So we got help from the Boy Next Door's capable staff and inventory to transform them into Summer Party boys.

The Boy Next Door has been outfitting partying queens in this city for 20 years. Yes 20, so when Dave Boswell, the gorgeous proprietor, said 3/4 length pants were in for the summer, we put them on Jeremy. They look good on taller guys or longer legged folks. The short sleeve shirts come in all kinds of summer colors, fabrics from silk to stretch cotton, and degrees of fit. (Remember – if it has to stretch, let it stretch over muscle and not the results of too much fried chicken.) There's a lovely one in my size, for those gift buyers out there, in a charcoal silk background with flowers. Get a large; they don't make the mediums with enough fabric anymore.

Oh, I asked what is definitely OUT for this season. The short answer was we should stop being the unpaid advertising billboards for clothing companies. Logo look is out. Wear the labels on the inside, Honey. Thank the Goddess of Good taste for prevailing finally over the 90s' gauche trend of displaying labels like it says something important about the wearer.



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Aida Rentas: Before

The might and influence of a Puerto Rican woman of color on the move is what most Atlantans have experienced in the person of Ms. Aida Rentas since she conquered this city some eight years ago. Her own personal clothing style is relaxed but fitted and tasteful and compliments her buxom shorter frame. Miss Aida, as she is known, dresses for her own comfort because she is the shopkeeper and owner of Obvious Choices, a cooperative boutique of all kinds of previously owned and new collectibles.

Loved the cropped jacket as it lengthens her from the waist down and is a stylish option for women who want the look that the younger girls are wearing with cropped, cut-off, trimmed, and barely there tops. It also will go with a skirt for you boys and girls who wear them.

Aida: After

She seduced the City of Atlanta's entire lesbigay and transgendered community. Why not feature her in the most casual of attire. Miss Aida, very simply- YOU Better Work.

Moi - Before

When you know there is going to be an "after" you try real hard to make the "before" look as good as you can. I try very hard these days to dress appropriate to the situation, but in comfort. Pants when needed at other times skirts if asked. At work I can dress the way I am pictured or with more a business look. I am the Research Coordinator for Dr. Julia Perilla's study of domestic violence in Latino Families housed at Georgia State University. The University asks that the staff distinguish ourselves in manner of dress from the students. Well we try.

Ms. Amethyst Pryde

My life has changed and the editor chose the look that best suits my life now. Well, these days I am not required so much to wear an ACT-UP t-shirt. Though, I never really wore one, I did wear the Pride Board t-shirt for years. I do currently live, though very recently moved in with my lover, in an area of the city that is not exactly Atlanta proper, not really even Decatur proper, as it were.

The dress is actually a Carolina Herrera with gold buttons and it was a good steal at only $10.99 from the Cathedral of St. Philip Thrift House. The casserole, Chicken Divan, is real and somewhat low-fat. And the silver is real, too for you catty, jealous types. I do find myself entertaining at a dinner table far more than I find myself at community meetings these days. It is not nearly as scary as I imagined.

Enjoy the summer and be Pridefully well dressed wherever you are.

*I was never arrested but observed the dress of my ACT-UP and Queer Nation clad friends as they bravely went to the pokey.

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Coping with **mental illness**

Over 31 million Americans are afflicted. Schizophrenia and Manic Depression (bipolar disorder) are two of the most serious mental illnesses. These illnesses have been identified as brain disorders and are not caused by poor parenting, environmental factors, or any self-willed acts. Atlanta-based medical facility Carmen Research explains how to seek the right advice

Schizophrenia and Manic Depression can be controlled but there is no known cure at this time. Most mentally ill, aided by new medications and new treatment approaches, can lead productive lives. Most properly medicated mentally ill persons are not dangerous nor inclined toward violent crime. More hospital space is occupied by the mentally ill than by patients suffering from cancer, lung, or heart diseases combined. 40% to 60% of our homeless are mentally ill. Each year another 100,000 young Americans are diagnosed with Schizophrenia for the first time. Severe mental illness costs this country about $50 to $100 billion each year in medical expenses, lost productivity, and social welfare benefits.

Here is a summary of the annual public tax dollars spent per patient per year for research:

Muscular dystrophy	$1,000
Cancer	$170
Heart	$150
Schizophrenia	$7
Manic Depression	$5

Carman Research works hand-in-hand with major pharmaceutical companies in testing the effectiveness and safety of investigational medications. Depression and anxiety medications have been prominent in our research, but other disorders, such as Schizophrenia, Bipolar and Obesity, for example, are also in our realm of research.

Our facility identifies and recruits appropriate patients and monitors them in a caring and controlled medical manner. If you qualify and consent to participate, there is no charge for your study medication or office visits. You are responsible for attendance at regular appointments.

Dr. John C. Carman is the Medical Director of Carman Research. He is highly regarded in the field of medical research, both locally and nationally. He has been active in clinical psychopharmacologic research for 26 years. Dr. Carman received his medical degree from the Upstate Medical Center of the State University of New York and completed his residency training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Carman's experience includes positions as a Clinical Associate with the National Institute of Mental Health, and as an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. He has authored over 100 publications and national presentations, as well as a book on biological psychiatry. He has received the A.E. Bennett Award of the Society for Biological Psychiatry, the Curt P. Richter Award of the International Society for Psychoneuroendocrinology and the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. Dr. Carman is board certified in psychiatry.

General Anxiety Disorder is a common and debilitating illness that can interfere with the daily lives of patients. Anxiety is a feeling of tension associated with a sense or threat of danger when the source of the danger is not known.

Common symptoms associated with Generalized Anxiety Disorder are:

- Feeling excessively nervous or anxious
- Worrying that bad things might happen
- Feeling restless, keyed up or on edge
- Feeling easily fatigued
- Having difficulty concentrating
- Feeling irritable
- Experiencing constant muscle tension
- Having difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep

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Often, but not always, Anxiety runs in families and the course it takes is quite variable. Some people may only experience one significant episode in their entire life, while others suffer with chronic anxiety which requires lifetime treatment.

Social Phobia is an anxiety disorder characterized by an intense, persistent fear and avoidance of social situations. This extreme fear of being judged or embarrassed may put a life on hold. Those who suffer may avoid social situations at all costs or tolerate them with great discomfort.

During social situations, or even before them, patients may experience some or all of the following symptoms:

- Excessive sweating
- Trembling
- Blushing
- Experience a pounding heart
- Feel suddenly very confused
- Feel a desire to flee the situation

Social Anxiety can affect every day decisions. Sufferers ask themselves, "what do I feel comfortable doing?" instead of "what do I want to do?" People with Social Phobia are at higher risk for depression, alcoholism and even suicide. Also, long term relationships and professional success are often drastically limited.

Bipolar Depression, or Manic Depression is an illness in which the patient suffers from extreme emotional euphoria followed closely by extreme emotional sadness.

Patients diagnosed with Bipolar Depression may suffer their symptoms in a variety of combinations. The combinations have been consolidated into three phases:

- Manic Phase
- Depressive Phase
- Mixed Phase

A patient will experience different symptoms with each phase.

These symptoms of a Manic Phase include at least three of the following symptoms:

- Inflated self-esteem
- Decreased need for sleep
- Talkativeness or pressured speech
- Flight of ideas
- Distractibility
- Increase in goal-directed activities
- Excessive involvement in pleasurable activities likely to lead to painful consequences.

A Manic Phase will last for at least a week and the patient will be persistently elevated, expansive and irritable.

The symptoms of a Depressive Phase will include at least four of the following:

- Feelings of sadness, loneliness, hopelessness
- Loss of interest or pleasure in activities
- Changes in weight or appetite
- Feeling guilty or worthless
- Difficulty concentrating, remembering things or making decisions
- Fatigue or loss of energy
- Restlessness or sluggishness
- Thoughts of death or suicide

A Depressive Phase will last for at least two weeks and the patient will feel deep emotional sadness.

In a Mixed Phase the patient will experience the same symptoms as above. However, the patient will simultaneously meet criteria for both manic and depressive symptoms every day.

Schizophrenia is a brain disorder associated with unusual or bizarre thinking or behavior. Contrary to common belief, it is not split personality or multiple personality disorder. The specific cause of Schizophrenia is not known. However, there are a few prominent theories, including genetics, neurochemicals, viral infection and developmental defects.

Common symptoms of Schizophrenia are:

- Hearing things others cannot
- Feeling that someone is going out of the way to bother you or harm you
- Seeing things that others cannot
- Feeling that people are talking about you or taking special notice of you
- Receiving special messages from the TV, radio or newspaper
- A feeling of having special powers to do things that others cannot do

WHY ARE CLINICAL TRIALS NEEDED?

Researchers are constantly looking for better or newer ways of treating illness and disease. But their discoveries cannot be put into general use until controlled testing has been done. Clinical trials are the only way that testing can be done.

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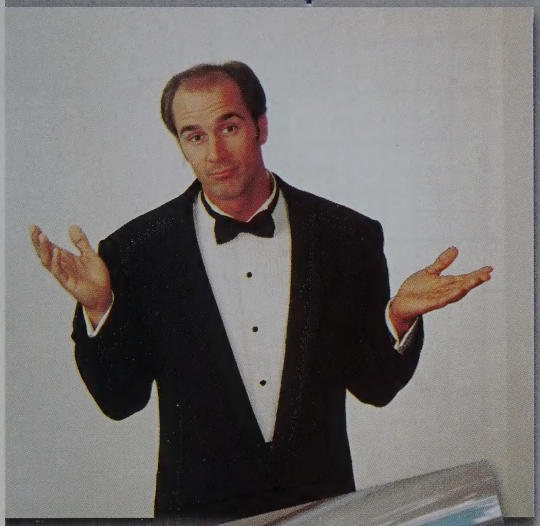
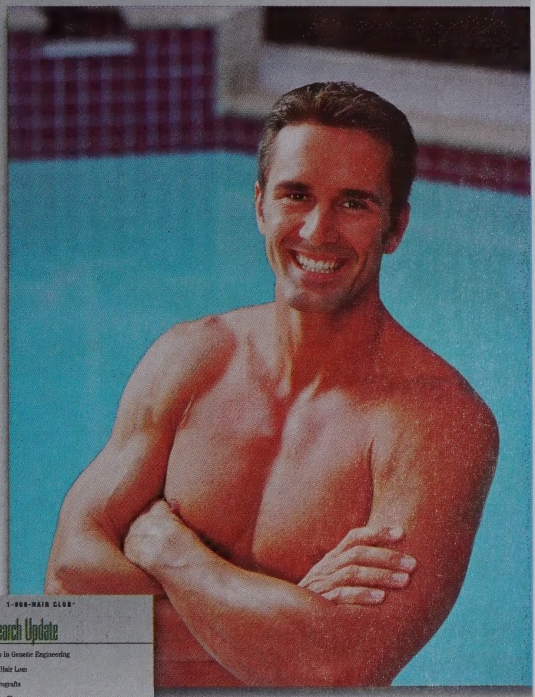
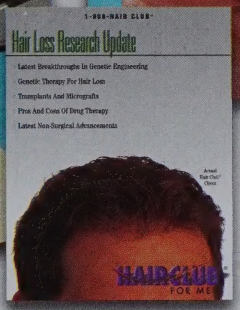
Who Says Clothes Make The Man?



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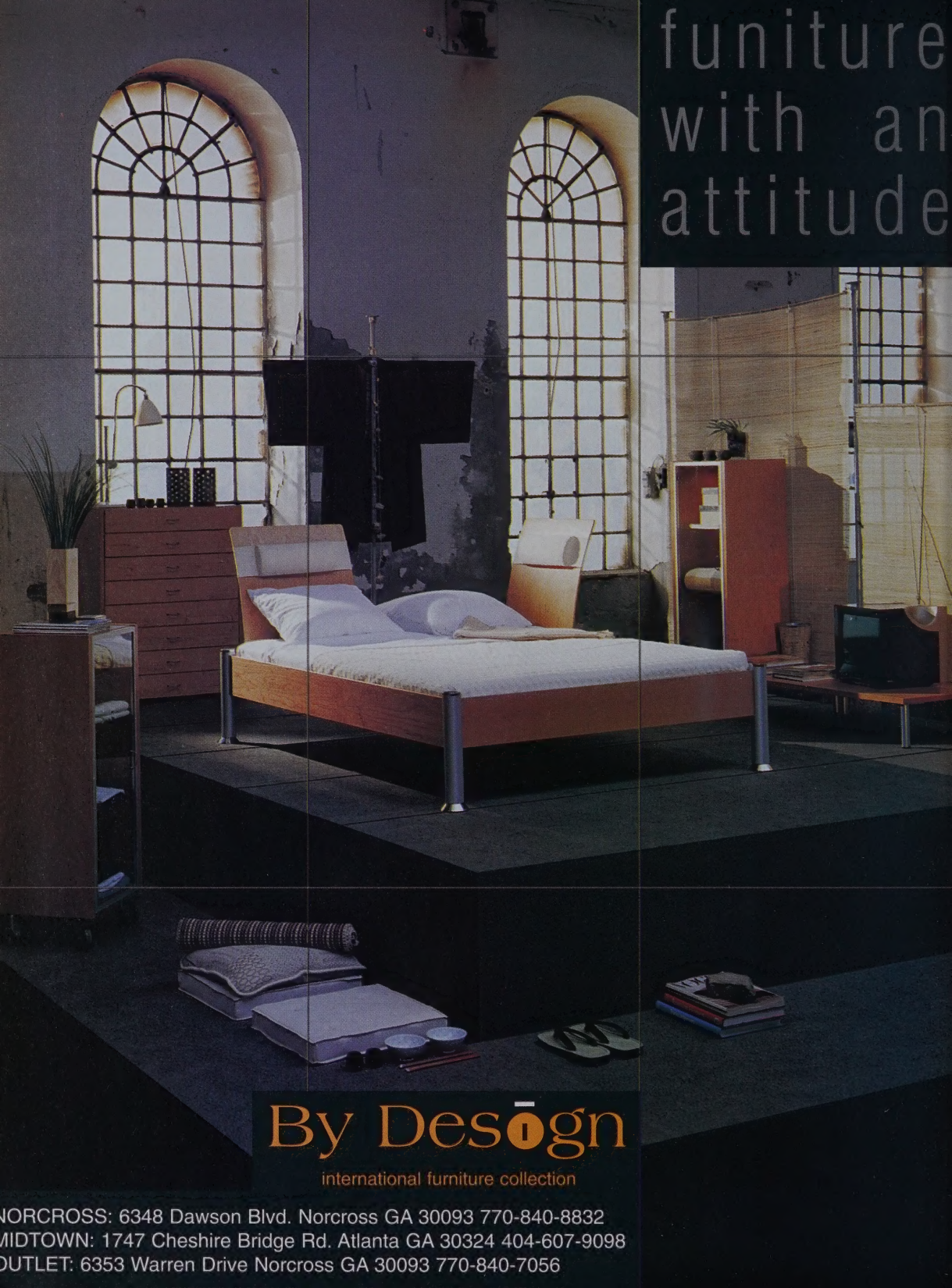
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The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requires clinical trials before it can approve a new treatment as safe and effective for public use.

WHO CONDUCTS CLINICAL TRIALS?

Pharmaceutical companies, research institutions, or other health organizations may be the sponsor of a clinical trial. They are responsible for funding and for designing the protocol. A protocol is a set of detailed guidelines that clinical investigators follow in order to conduct the same trial at several different locations. However, only trained doctors, nurses and medical researchers actually conduct the trial itself.

HOW AM I PROTECTED AS A PATIENT?

As a patient under a doctor's supervision, you are protected by the same laws and ethics that normally regulate the medical profession. Informed consent helps protect you by making sure you have been given all the necessary information about a trial. The FDA regulates clinical trial advertisements to reduce misleading claims. It also requires an Institutional Review Board (IRB) to review the general process of the trial.

HOW ARE NEW MEDICATIONS APPROVED?

Pre-clinical testing. A pharmaceutical company conducts laboratory and animal studies to show biological activity of the compound against the targeted disease, and the compound is evaluated for safety. These tests take approximately 6.5 years.

INVESTIGATIONAL NEW DRUG APPLICATION (IND).

Next the company files an IND with the FDA to begin the testing in humans. The IND shows (among other things) results of the previous studies; how, where and by whom the new studies will be conducted; any toxic effects found in the animal studies and how it is thought to work in the body. The IND must be reviewed and approved by the IRB. Progress reports on clinical trials must be submitted at least annually to the FDA.

Clinical Trial, Phase 1. Timing = approx. 1.5 years. Participants = 20 to 80 normal, healthy volunteers. These tests study the drug's safety, how the drug is absorbed, metabolized and excreted and the duration of action.

Clinical Trial, Phase 2. Timing = about 2 years. Participants = 100 to 300 patients. These tests assess the drug's effectiveness.

Clinical Trial, Phase 3. Timing = 3.5 years. Participants = 1,000 to 3,000 patients. These tests determine efficacy and identify adverse reactions.

New Drug Application (NDA). Following the completion of the phases, the data is collected and the FDA determines its approval based on the safety and efficacy data.

Approval. After FDA approval, the medication is available for prescription. The FDA requires additional Phase 4 studies to determine the long-term effects.

The first full week of October is National Mental Illness Awareness week.

The NAMI Georgia State Convention is October 13 – 14, 2000.

NAMI is a grassroots self-help, support, education and advocacy organization of people with serious brain disorders (mental illnesses) and their families and friends. NAMI's mission is to eradicate mental illness and improve the quality of life for those who suffer from these no-fault brain disorders.

The NAMI Family to Family Education Program is designed to foster learning, healing and empowerment among families of individuals with serious brain disorders. The program is free and consists of a series of 12 weekly classes.

Carman Research is conveniently located in northwest Atlanta, 2 miles north of Interstate 285, at the South Cobb Drive exit, on the grounds of the Ridgeview Institute. For more information, please call our office: (770) 333-0093 or visit our web site at www.carmanresearch.com.

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By Bill Murphy

What's Happening?

Were to Go and What to Do in Atlanta Outside the Park

If someone asks, "What is the scene like in Hotlanta?" I have no idea what to say. Although technically it is a metropolitan area of 3.5 million people, it is really a collection of neighborhoods, each unique in character. There is no singlular gay neighborhood but a wonderful collection – some more gay than others, some more geared to women than men, some younger, some older, but all worth visiting and finding out why Atlanta residents are so proud of where they live, work, and play.

MIDTOWN

Probably the "gayest" of Atlanta neighborhoods, Midtown is where most of the bars are located. Run down in the sixties, during the seventies gay folks started buying and renovating homes, and it is now among the city's most desireable areas. Piedmont Park, home to Atlanta Pride, is a major gathering place. Designed by Frederick Law Olmstead at the turn of the century as a rural park, it is being restored to its original beauty, thanks to the Piedmont Park Conservancy. Although it is hard to break away from all the festivities of Pride, do make the effort to go to the Atlanta Botanical Garden at the north end of the park. Even the last of the brown thumbs will be inspired!

The corner of 10th and Piedmont has become the shopping hub of Midtown, thanks to the revitalization started by Phillip Rafshoon of Outwrite Books and Coffeehouse. It's not only a great place to find books and gifts, but a wonderful stop for coffee and light fare and to meet friends. Can't find that certain book? They'll gladly order it for you. And all those pictures you've taken that need developing or forgot the darned film? Drop by Image Photo on the opposite corner and you'll be well taken care of. Just South on Piedmont are Candlebar, Hodge Podge, and Twelve. Great places to buy gifts- even if they are for yourself! All three stores have unique items you'll probably never see anywhere else. Ready for a cocktail after all that shopping? Drop in at Blake's, a great neighborhood bar known for friendly service and some of the cutest guys in town. You'll probably be hungry, too – while trying to eat healthy – so check out the Big Red Tomato for fabulous Mediterranean cuisine in a delightful setting- inside or out.

Just a bit north on Piedmont are Ansley Square and Ansley Mall where queer shopping abounds! Remember to hit Brushstrokes to buy cards and postcards, fun gift items, and "personal needs." And if after checking out the steamy video collection you need something to cool you off, walk across the parking lot to

What's Happening?

Burkhart's, a cozy pub for a diverse group where the only requirement is having fun. Looking for a great new outfit? Visit the guys at The Boy Next Door across the street and they'll have you looking great!

West from the park at the corner of Juniper and 13th is Einstein's, with one of the best gay patios in town. Great casual dining – make sure to taste the sweet potato fries!

If you wanna get some culture, go to the Woodruff Arts Center at Peachtree and 15th Street. Don't miss the Michael Venezia Retrospective at Gallery 100 (June 2-30), and if you're here early enough, get tickets for W;T by lesbian playwright Margaret Edson at the Alliance Studio Theatre. Both are part of Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration.

Night life you say? You got it! Backstreet is the place to dance the night (and morning) away, but before hand, check out the Armory next door for their great parties at Pride. Bulldog's is a good choice for a racially mixed cruise bar, and KAYA has a great club scene with innovative dance music at their sunday T-Dance. For even more fun, go next door to the Metro and "check out" the strippers. All within easy walking distance on Peachtree!

Closer to the park is Fusion on Amsterdam off Monroe with great dance music for the club scene. Not quite into that? Walk across the street to Miss Q's and kick back and shoot a few rounds of pool.

Looking for something more adventurous, shall we say? A bit of leather? Visit The Eagle on Ponce de Leon Ave. Not only home to the Leather community, it's also a great friendly neighborhood bar. While you're there, check out Foreskins Leathers, the shop downstairs. You'll probably find something you just have to have!

What, you say, too much debauchery for you? Well, my friend, the spiritual community for the gay and lesbian world is thriving in Midtown. St. Mark's United Methodist on Peachtree at 4th hands out water to Pride parade marchers every year – need we say more? Into alternative religion? Check out the Church of Religious Science at the Woodruff Arts Center. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on Peachtree just south of St. Mark's also embraces us. In the mood for a high mass? Go to All Saint's Episcopal at the corner of West Peachtree and North for "smells and bells."

And there is so much more to discover in Midtown! But let's travel around the city.

CHESHIRE BRIDGE ROAD

Head north on Piedmont Ave from Ansley Mall to the Cheshire Bridge corridor, and plan to have drinks and lunch or dinner either coming or going at Cowtippers – great beef both on and at the tables! They also have some of the best margaritas in town. During the daytime there are lots of antique shops and flea markets to check out on Cheshire Bridge. Be sure to visit Atlanta Water Gardens for unique fountains and everything you need for a backyard pond. For an incredible array of adult items, don't forget to drop by Inserrection and Southern Nights. Hungry? Go to a veritable Atlanta institution since the twenties, the Collonnade, for good Southern food at moderate prices – jokingly called where the gays and grays meet! For nightlife, The Heretic rules in a cruisy atmosphere (no shirts allowed on the dance floor!) and Deux Plex features fine dining and dancing for a one-stop evening out on the town.

LENOX/PHIPPS/BUCKHEAD

In the mood for some serious shopping? Keep heading north to Lenox Square and Phipps Plaza (or be smarta and take MARTA) where you'll find every upscale store you can imagine – Nieman-Marcus, Macy's, Saks Fifth Avenue, Lord

and Taylor, Tiffany's, Banana Republic - the list goes on. Window shopping is not only for clothes – you'll also see some of the best looking gals and guys in town. And while you're in the area, drop by Trinity Gallery on East Paces Ferry to see the Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration exhibit "Hairdos and Tractor Pulls," a visual commentary on the experience of growing up gay and bisexual in the South. Buckhead is known as the center of nightlife in Atlanta, but it's all way hetero, so head back into town.

LITTLE FIVE POINTS

If you're looking for counter culture, head out on Ponce de Leon to Moreland Avenue and head South. It's the right neighborhood to get pierced or tatooed and to shop for funky vintage clothing. And enough people watching to help you decide! A must stop for all women is Charis Books and More at 1189 Euclid Ave. For 25 years they have served the community, and have lots of events scheduled for Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration throughout the entire month of June. Stick around in the evening for more cultural celebrations with "A Glorietta" and "Glory Box" at 7 Stages at 1105 Euclid Ave, and lots of laughs at "Psycho Beach Party" at Dad's Garage at 280 Elizabeth Street. As well as hosting lots of cultural events for the month, for some spiritual renewal attend services at First Existentialist Congregation at 470 Candler Park Drive nearby.

DECATUR

Head east on Ponce de Leon (or take MARTA) to the town square in Decatur with its great small town atmosphere. The community fills the small cafes and shops, without a franchise joint in the lot. Assemble goodies for a picnic on the courthouse lawn and listen to the live performances in the gazebo. Just off the square, the girls are partying at My Sister's Room at 222 E. Howard. And don't forget to check out the performances at Eddie's Attic on the square – especially "Glam, Spam, and Dental Dams" with gay and lesbian comics as part of Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration. Need a little religion? Go to Oakhurst Baptist Church at 222 East Lake Drive, a congregation that was kicked out of the Southern Baptist Convention for welcoming gays, and is thriving as a result, thank you very much.

EAST ATLANTA VILLAGE

If you head south on Moreland from Little Five Points and cross over I-20, you'll come to East Atlanta Village. What was a ghost town a few years ago, our community has moved in and created, well, a village. And a fun and funky one at that. Lots of unique shops, and great food at reasonable prices – especially at Burrito Art, Kiva, Heaping Bowl and Brew, and Grant Central Pizza. Stop in at the ultra chic Fountainhead Lounge for a martini and a diverse crowd, and don't miss Mary's, a quaint neighborhood gay bar complete with pool table, cozy seating on the balcony, and a group seating area to gather with a bunch of friends. Consider spending the afternoon nearby at Grant Park, home of Zoo Atlanta to visit our two baby Panda Bears and also to enjoy the stunning architecture and landscape of the revitalized landmark.

And when you visit these neighborhoods, if you have the time stroll or drive through the residential areas to see lovingly restored and renovated homes along the tree lined streets and admire the work of our hands. A great deal of the revitalization of our intown neighborhoods has been accomplished by the queer community, and we're quite proud.

There is so much else to see and do in Atlanta! Hop on MARTA to downtown and take a tour of CNN Center (reservations recommended) and see the media giant producing the news. And although it may sound strange to have a museum for a soft drink, this is Atlanta, and The World of Coke is fascinating. And it may be hokey, but ride the glass elevator to the top of the 73 story Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel for the spectacular view. Take the MARTA East Line to The King Memorial and learn about the history of the Civil Rights Movement. Baseball fans can enjoy a Braves game now that John Rocker isn't playing often. History buffs should go the the Atlanta History Center on West Paces Ferry Road in Buckhead to look through their large archive of gay and lesbian history. "Gone With the Wind" and Margaret (we call her Peggy) Mitchell fans must see the Margaret Mitchell House, affectionately referred to by her as "The Dump," at Peachtree and Tenth. But don't go looking for Tara – it doesn't exist. And if you're into both history and GWTW, visit Oakland Cemetary at Memorial Drive and Boulevard just South of the King Center to see her burial site, and those of other prominent Atlantans – and a beautiful park-like setting. Even if you don't like the show, be sure to see the Fabulous Fox Theater's remarkable Moorish architecture at Peachtree and Ponce de Leon. And since you're only two blocks away, no trip to Atlanta is complete without a chili dog, onion rings, and a frosted orange at The Varsity.

The attractions here are endless, but the best attraction of all is the GLBT Community. We are filled with Pride in our hometown and welcome you to share Atlanta with us!

For even more information, visit
www.come.to/gayatlanta
Bill Murphy is an Atlanta based writer.

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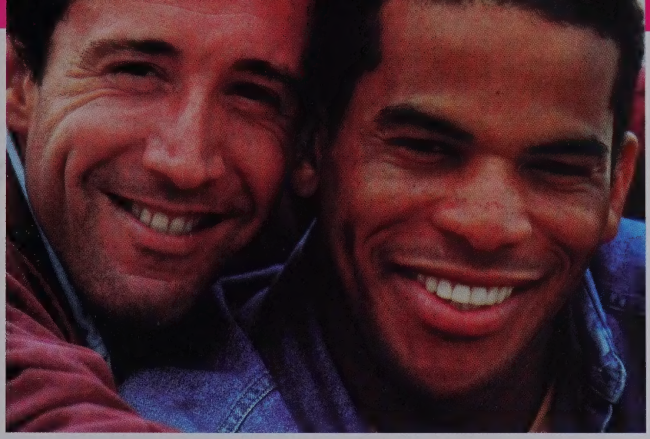

By Bill Murphy

ATLANTA PRIDE'S CULTURAL CELEBRATION:

A MONTH LONG

FEAST OF EVENTS

From the very beginning thirty years ago, cultural events have always played a part in Pride's celebration. In the early seventies poetry readings were an important part of the celebration, and as Pride grew, so did the quantity and quality of these events. Films were added, then plays and exhibits, then concerts. Various groups around the city began participation staging their own events in conjunction with Pride. Radio and Television stations began adding gay themed programming around the event. New plays and music were written with premieres planned during the celebration. It is, of course, a natural fit. We have contributed generously to culture throughout history, and what better time to celebrate that than Pride.

This 30th Anniversary of Pride will mark the Third Anniversary of Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration. The goal is "To widen the mission and purpose of Pride by inviting the Atlanta community to celebrate with us the lives and works of GLBT artists and performers in a month long spotlight on gay art and history." Taking place during the entire month of June, with 28 events in 13 venues around the city, the celebration features readings and book signings, poetry, concerts, comedy, cabaret, theatre, art shows, and discussion groups. No matter where your cultural interests lie, there are bound to be many things of interest for you in this diverse collection of events!

WPBA TV Channel 30 and WABE Radio 90.1FM will also broadcast many programs of interest to the GLBT community throughout the month as a part of Atlanta Pride's Cultural Celebration. So on the days when you have to take a break from all the activities, you can still enjoy queer programming at home.

The excitement begins right at Hartsfield International Airport in the Atrium Gallery with an exhibit of Colleen Sterling's mixed media artwork. Ready for more? Trinity Gallery has fun with the show "Hairdos and Tractor Pulls" exploring our queer Southern identity in painting, sculpture, and photography. On a more somber note, Woodruff Arts Center's Gallery 100 presents a retrospective of artist Michael Venezia's deeply spiritual works and contributions

Atlanta Pride Celebration
Building our Future Together
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

ATLANTA PRIDE'S CULTURAL CELEBRATION:

A MONTH LONG

FEAST OF EVENTS

to the community. Mr. Venezia died earlier this year.

Cabaret has always been a part of Atlanta's gay culture, and this year the Cultural Celebration will embrace that with "Tin Roof Blues" at ART Station in Stone Mountain. Starring Bryan Mercer, Clint Thornton, and favorite Megan McFarland, this musical review of the Deep South has roots in both honky-tonk and gospel. And let's see what they do with the column on the stage this time!

Literary types will be in heaven with all the authors appearing at Charis Books and More for women and Outwrite Books and Coffeehouse oriented to the guys. Charis is also featuring many round table discussions on a variety of topics of importance to our community. These are events you'd never find at the big booksellers, so visit our charming local shops and stock up for your summer reading.

Theatre afficiondos can experience a full range from serious drama to high camp. 7 Stages presents Rebecca Ransom's "A Glorietta" and Tim Miller's "Glory Box", both dealing with challenges to our culture. The Alliance Studio Theatre presents the the Pulitzer Prize winning "W;T" by Atlanta lesbian playwright Margaret Edson.

Feel a need to let a bunch of stuff go for Pride? Don't miss Adodi Muse's "Late Night Garage Sale- the Show- Everything Must Go" at the First Existentialist Church. The Gay Negro Ensemble trio will indeed in poetry, prose, and song clean out their closet-and yours. Laugh until your sides hurt at Dad's Garage with the irreverent Charles Busch's "Psycho Beach Party" ode to Gidget movies. Go see all of these, and you will have a complete theatre experience.

Want even more laughs? "Glam, Spam, and Dental Dams" at Eddie's Attic in Decatur pokes OUTrageous fun at gay culture featuring Atlanta comics Matt Montgomery and Alyssa Barnett and other favorites.

Movie theatres are a great place to beat the summer sun and heat. And Georgia State University's Cinefest is the place to do it with their many showings of the documentary "Out at Work" and part fact-part fiction movie "Beefcake."

For a really big show, don't miss The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. This year's theme for the annual event is "Celluloid, Footlights, and Video Tape" in a salute to music of the media under new Artistic Director Gary W. Arnold. The chorus has been a part of Pride since their third birthday in 1983, and every year their concerts get bigger and better.

So, you think you're ready to do some performing of your own, do you? The Black Lesbian and Gay Poet's Society hosts "Speakfire" with an open mic opportunity for you to speak your own fire with host Ynkuya and co-hosts Imani and Malik. Who knows – a star may be born!

Talk about something to be proud of! The entire month of June filled with performances, events, and exhibits all for us! Check out dates and times listed, get on that phone and make those reservations, pull out that Palm Pilot and mark those dates. See ya there!

Bill Murphy is an Atlanta based writer. When not in front of his Mac, he can be found gardening with his cat, Simon, and puppy, Hilda. He can be reached at SimDad@Bellsouth.net

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THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

FITNESS, PRIDE AND YOU

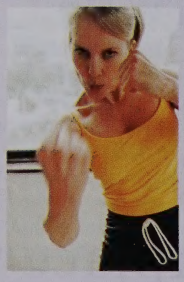
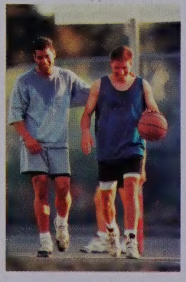
ALL OF THE FUN, NONE OF THE GUILT

by Dr. Barbara J. Rubin

Sure. Here we go again. Heath and fitness. I suppose this is yet another article getting me to see how lazy or out of shape I am, and how I make commitments to start that exercise program on Monday but never seem to get around to it. Sure, I get it. Another opportunity to make me feel guilty, right?

Well, you'll be pleased to know that on the occasion of the Atlanta PRIDE celebration, you're invited instead to think about pride as it relates to how you feel about yourself and your body. Feeling good about who you are, feeling comfortable in your own skin. Taking pride in saying, "I deserve to invest in taking the best care of me I know how." How often do we really do that proactively and as an investment in ourselves?

More often than not, we begin this process of getting fit and getting in shape in reaction to excess of some sort. I've really overdone it with my eating or partying or working. Look at the shape I'm in now! It's rare that we think "now is the time I'll take pride in my SELF and begin to focus on how to take better care of me because I deserve it!" You can change that focus right now. Why not toy with the

act that taking pride in your own health can actually be a fun experience.

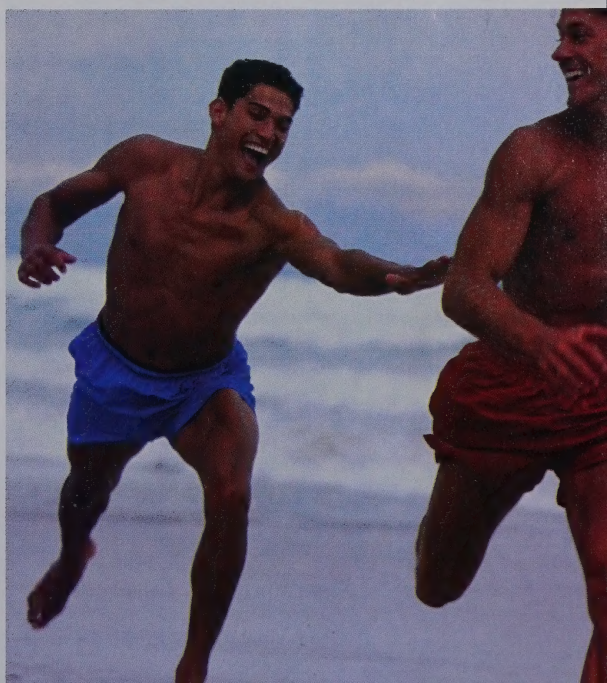
Ask yourself this: "How much do I care about myself?" No, I mean really. Not an odd question at this time of year. Pride in who we are, right? Well, how does that relate to you and feeling fit and in shape? For those who can say to yourselves, I really care about myself a lot, how do you demonstrate this? Do you eat only certain kinds of foods? Do you choose to exercise in a gym? Do you prefer to meditate? Join a sports team? Walk regularly?

As we celebrate Atlanta PRIDE, take a moment to think about all the ways you consciously take pride in your health. Start by getting clear about what "feeling healthy" and "getting in shape" mean to you. Each of us has our own picture in our head about what getting in shape looks like, our expectations of how we think something will be. Get clear exactly what YOUR picture looks like. Do you see yourself enduring some kind of a grueling and painful process? Or do you see yourself effortlessly investing in your health, exercising and feeling healthier about YOU every day?

Do you see yourself running with Atlanta Frontrunners? Swimming with Rainbow Trout? Meditating based on the Eastern masters? For many, joining a sports team or even a hiking group offers a sense of community and a much sought after social outlet, where we work out as individuals, meet people and feel connected to a something larger than ourselves...the rest of the team or the rest of the universe and all of nature! Perhaps we feel inspired, and more easily motivated by group participation. What's true for YOU?

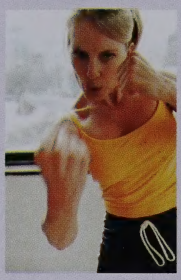
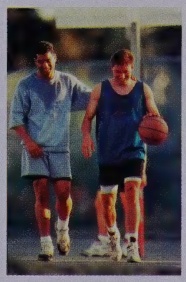
The picture for others may involve more individual pursuits such as meditation, eating a healthier diet, and walking regularly. Or making a conscious choice to reduce some unnecessary stress in our lives. All excellent avenues. Not necessarily better, just different.

Still others decide that joining a gym is the best way to go. In this process we have to first get clear what suits our needs so we can find that good fit. What's important to us? Location? Cost? Types of equipment? Gender mix? Special classes? Does it need to be gay-owned or operated? Again, what's YOUR picture?



FITNESS, PRIDE AND YOU

An informal survey of prospective gym members suggests that an initial fear factor is common. "I feel too intimidated just going INTO the place to take a tour!" Potential members want to see people like them milling around who are in the process of changing their health and fitness routine. The worst thing in the world is to invest in working out at a place where you feel like a foreigner.

So...figure out what it will take for you to feel comfortable going to a gym. Be sure to check out if those things you value are a part of what that gym offers. Ask questions. Go at different times of day to check them out. Find out when their busiest times are. Can you get on the equipment you want to use at the time of day you like to go?

Apart from seeing others who look like you, other common criteria are location, hours of operation that complement your own work out biorhythms, a welcoming staff, and the condition and variety of the equipment. An assortment of classes focused on cardio and conditioning of specific body parts are also of interest to many (spinning, aerobics, abs and gluts class, kick boxing).

Another feature of many gyms is their receptivity to offering a discount for a partner's membership. If you're interested in working with a personal trainer either to help get you motivated in the beginning or to stick with you several times a week, a majority offer that service at a variety of creative fee structure for individuals or you and a buddy working to together. From no frills to upscale amenities, you'll do yourself a favor taking a look at any of these. The facilities are listed alphabetically.

Nearly all are open seven days a week, usually from 5 or 6 a.m. to 12 midnight Monday through Friday. Usually open 8 am to between 6-8 pm on weekends.

1. Athletic Club, NE 1515 Sheridan Road 404-325-2700

Average of 10 aerobics classes per day, racquetball, swimming, tennis. Offers partner discount and only has monthly fees. No contracts required.

2. Australian Body Works at Colony Square 1197 Peachtree Street, NE 404-897-1550

Aerobics, cardio, classes, tanning beds, sauna, plus four personal trainer sessions included with membership. Good partner discount. Annual and month to month rates. No contract required.

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FITNESS, PRIDE AND YOU

3. Ballys Total Fitness at Lenox
3400 Wooddale Drive, NE 404-233-5263

Equipment and cardio. Indoor track, racquetball and aerobics classes. Limited partner discount. Creative pay arrangement depending on amenities you select.

4. Boot Camp Aerobics/Body Construction Fitness Center 1544 Piedmont Avenue, NE Ansley Mall 404-876-8686

Aerobics classes, personal trainers, tanning beds, more weight equipment than bikes and treadmills, offers partner discount.
Annual memberships and month to month. Contract required.

5. Crunch of Buckhead 3340 Peachtree Road, NE 404-262-2120

tanning beds, focused on working out. Great partner discount, Annual membership, month to month. Contract required.

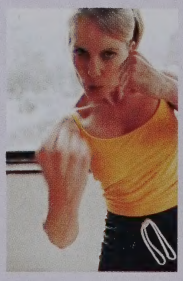
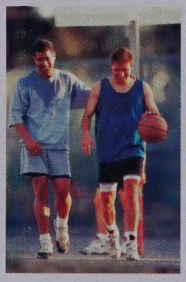
7. Iron Works Fitness 1650 Virginia Avenue College Park 404-766-9900

Cardio equipment, mostly free weights. Atmosphere recommended for beginners. Partner discount. Annual Membership and will go month to month. No contract required.

8. Lee Haneys World Class Fitness Center 675 Ponce De Leon Avenue 404-892-6737

Free weights, cardio machines, offer circuit training classes and kick boxing. No partner discount. Only month to month. Annual contract.

9. Mid-City Fitness 2201 Faulkner Road, NE 404-321-6507

Cardio and traditional weight equipment, racquetball, basketball, track and aerobics classes. No partner discount. Costs depend on amenities you select. Annual contract required.

6. Fitness Factory 500 N. Amsterdam Avenue 404-815-7900

Aerobics and extensive line of equipment,

Wide variety of classes, cardio and equipment. Hair salon, steam and sauna for men. Partner discount. Month to month. Contract required.

10. PE Midtown 742 Ponce de Leon Place 404-885-1499

One of the newest gyms in midtown area. Brand new equipment, wide variety of classes, features televisions with broadcast vision for

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FITNESS, PRIDE AND YOU

working out on cardio equipment. No partner discount. Annual membership and month to month. No contract required.

11. Peachtree Center Athletic Club
227 Courtland Street, NE 404-523-3833

High end atmosphere, pool, racquetball, basketball, indoor track, cardio and classes. Offers partner discount. High start up fee and month to month. No annual contract.

12. Planet Fitness 4920 Roswell Road, NE
404-256-4653

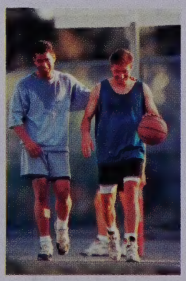
Large cardio area, wide variety of machines, steam room and tanning beds, kick boxing class. A special couples price offered. Annual membership. No month to month. Contract required

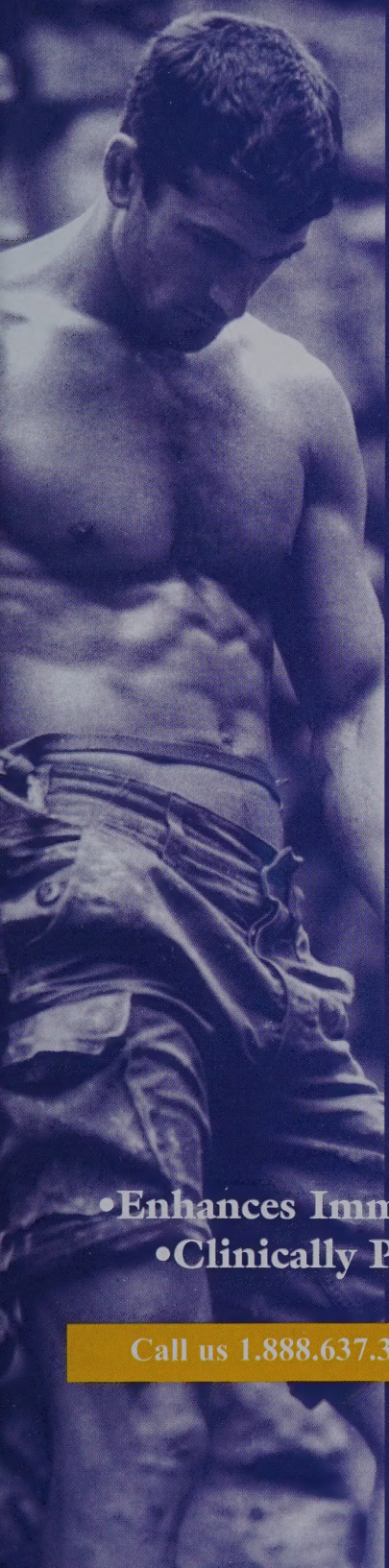
13. YMCA of Decatur 1100 Clairemont Avenue
404-377-0241

Indoor pool and track, sauna and steam room, full array or cardio and classes, child care available. Family rate available. Month to month and no annual contract required.

EDITOR'S NOTE: References to any establishment listed does not imply endorsement or recommendation by the Atlanta PRIDE Committee.

Barbara J. Rubin, Psy.D., a licensed psychologist with a private practice in Midtown, is a former semi-professional basketball player who still uses physical fitness to maintain good psychological health.





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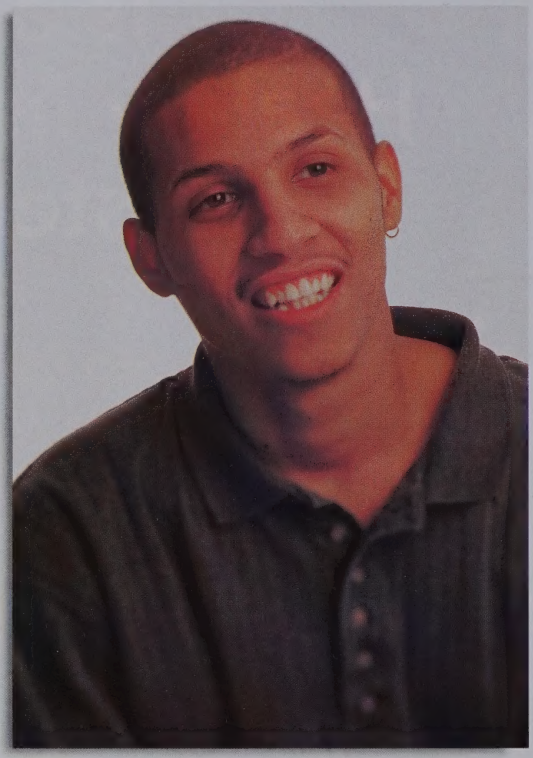

SEROSTIM [somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection] is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM has not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.

SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's an anabolic (LBM building) and anticatabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA, or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo). Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available. Patients receiving growth hormone therapy and who are hospitalized due to complications following open heart or abdominal surgery, multiple accidental trauma or patients having acute respiratory failure may be at risk of developing life-threatening complications and should be evaluated closely prior to continuing treatment with growth hormone.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at **800-714-2437** to find out about SEROSTIM's solution.

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*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.

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THE COMING OUT PROCESS:

A PICTURE'S WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

It's always been an interesting concept to me. Coming out. "From where?" I always wanted to ask. Out of the darkness? Out from behind something? When it comes to GLBT people, this imagery speaks volumes. We as a group are considered "inside of", "behind something else". Others' views of us are obscured somehow. We're unable to be fully seen or heard. Somehow parts of us are invisible to others. You know us, but not really. Not fully. Not truly.

It's hard to grasp this whole idea because we don't usually consciously think of ourselves as hiding parts of us. Sure, we did somehow make a decision at some point to conceal parts of us out of fear that being all of who we are could harm us in some way. But after a few times of putting on that protective armor, we noticed the heat was off in some respects. The fears were more in the distance. The world seemed a little bit less threatening somehow. In short, it was reinforcing. It felt good. We could exhale now. Whew. The world seemed a little less scary and BOY that sure felt good after a while. This shrinking, not being fully visible, regrettably became an unconscious habit for many of us. We may not have even been aware for months or years of the depths to which we presented ourselves to the world as less than who we really are. As less than our human potential.

It's moving to consider, with all the goodness we collectively bring to the world every day as glbt people, that we have reached such heights and made such contributions to the world even with one hand tied behind our backs. Wow. IMAGINE a world where we do not ever shrink, or feel "less than" because of this truth that dared not speak its name. Where we showed up each day in our entirety.

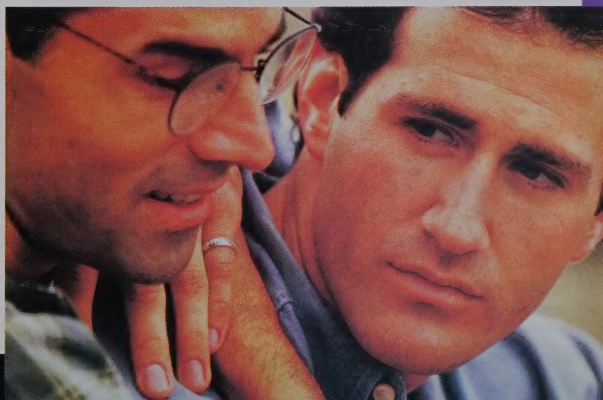
As we celebrate at the Atlanta PRIDE 2000 festival, it's important to recognize that as we come out of our homes and line the streets for the parade, and come out of our homes to be counted among the thousands of revelers at Piedmont Park, that we are feeling comfortable, accepted. validated, empowered and perhaps a little bit more clear about the value being visible can play for us in our personal lives. We feel a safety in numbers, we see "people who look like us", we feel at home in our own skin. We feel entitled to live and love as we choose. We're embracing life with both arms outstretched this time. You just can't beat it.

But what happens on Monday morning? Why do we shrink back a bit again? Slip into a pattern of withholding bits and pieces of how we express ourselves to our loved ones and, interestingly, even to strangers. Where is the contagious spirit from Saturday at the park now that it's Monday in the staff meeting? With rare exception, this stutter-step dance is one we all play to one degree or another, no matter if we came out a month ago or thirty years ago. The honest truth is that in a majority of instances we feel somehow we need to keep those dancing shoes on. We slip into them so comfortably and naturally. We either deny that we do it ("would anyone like a nice cold drink?"), or it has become such second nature we really don't even catch it in ourselves.

The moral of the story? This "coming out" thing is tricky business. The truth is we have choices to come out, to be fully who we are in all our GLBTness, each and every day in every interaction we have. In every picture we put on our

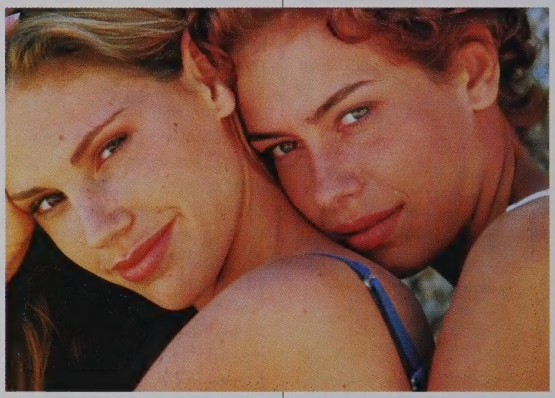
desk at work. In every conversation with our family about why we flew to Washington for the weekend at the end of April. And, of course, why we may have chosen NOT to fly to Washington. We have choices to be out there, using all of our potential. What choices will YOU make today, and tomorrow, and more importantly, on Monday? Are you even conscious about the factors you weigh in coming to these decisions?

As we reflect on the personal meaning we associate with Atlanta PRIDE, take a moment and think about how "out" you are in your life. How visible you let yourself be with others. What stops you from being



more disclosing about details of your personal life with others who may or may not know you are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered? Saving the self-protective stuff for some other time, take a look inside and find out where you really are on your own "OUT"-meter. Get really bare-bones honest with yourself. What parts of your glbt identity do you conceal?

how to live your life. For many of us, it's "I came out to my parents and now look at me, I'm at PRIDE this year and feeling great!" Yet for others of us, we can be out for these special weekend celebrations but then slip back a step or two, put ourselves back in the bottle. Shrink just a bit. Feel lees comfortable being all the way out there.



Withhold? Deny? Ask yourself the question WHY? Let yourself answer out loud. You will learn a lot looking in your own mirror. Your picture will speak a thousand words to you. If you're listening.

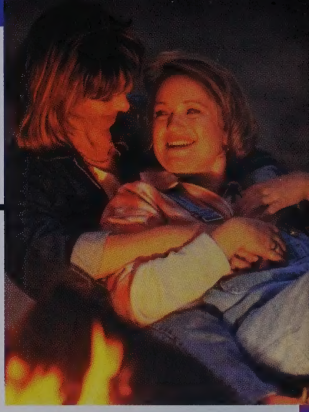
To be sure, the process of coming out is about taking another step. Forward. Whatever your next forward step might be. This is not a race of "Whoever comes out to grandma first, wins!" It's a game of being conscious and making informed choices about

If you're experiencing any of the stutter-step dance, please know you are not alone in this. The fact is that many of the most "out" individuals in our community struggle with being "out" in some settings. Being "out" over here, does not automatically transfer to being "out" in all places for a myriad of reasons. From our own homophobia to threats of real or perceived harm to us. Whatever the case, this is something we continue to examine throughout our lives with rare exception, if we are honest about it.

Atlanta is extremely fortunate to have a wealth of resources to help us better understand the reasons for our own stutter steps in our coming out process. It's up to us to take advantage of them if we really want to continue growing in a healthy manner and have our head, heart and feet going in the same direction every day of our lives.

Here is an abbreviated listing of the many credible organizations available for support and affirmation.

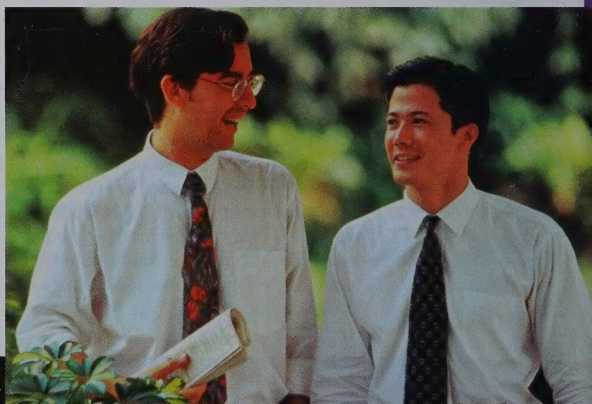
Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Center 404-876-5372tt
Youth Pride 404-223-6780
Positive Impact 404-885-9040
Atlanta Lambda Center 404-881-1985
My Brother's Keeper Support for same-gender attracted young black men 404-325-7321
Brother's Back to Back African-American male HIV/AIDS support group 770-416-7062
BiNature Discussion and support group for bisexuals and bi-friendlies. 404-256-8992
Georgia Psychological Association (Referral Listings of Psychologists skilled with GLBT issues) 404-351-9555

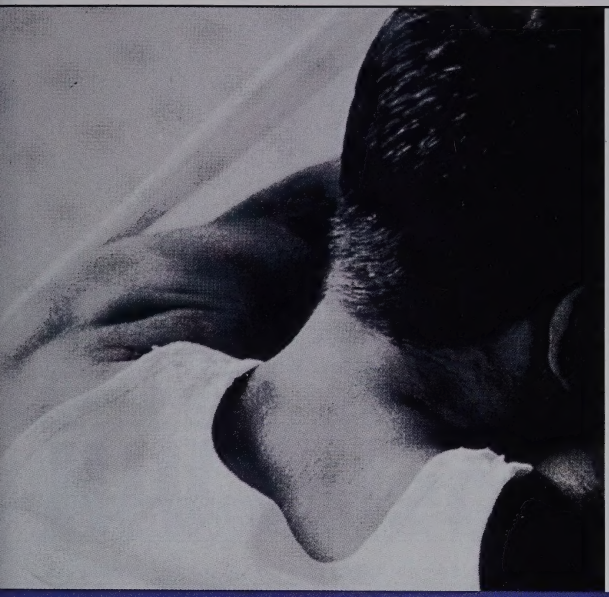


Along with this sampling of areas Houses of Worship:

Congregation Bet Haverim 404-607-0054 Jewish Reconstructionist Synagogue
St. Mark United Methodist Church 404-873-2636
Ormewood Park Presbyterian Church 404-627-2216
St. Luke's Episcopal Church 404-873-7600
Virginia-Highland Baptist Church 404-873-1355
Christ Covenant MCC 404-373-2933
First Existentialist Congregation 404-378-5570
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marietta 770-528-9542
Atlanta Church of Religious Science 404-355-3767

Barbara J. Rubin, Psy.D. is a licensed psychologist with a private practice in Midtown who has come to personally understand the powerful rewards to be gained by being as "out" as we can be.





Panretin® gel is an innovative, self-administered topical retinoid gel used to treat skin lesions in persons with HIV-related Kaposi's sarcoma. Your doctor can advise whether treatment with Panretin® gel is appropriate for you.

Panretin® gel is generally applied two times each day. Its use should be evaluated by your doctor in relation to other treatments you may be taking. Panretin® gel can be used whether or not you've tried any other anti-KS treatments, but should not be used when systemic anti-KS therapy is required.

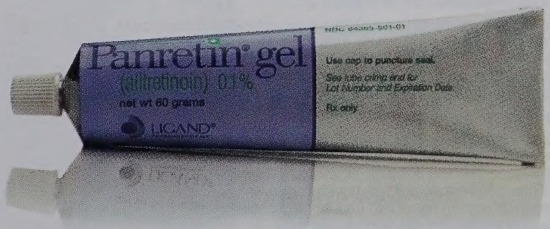
Panretin® gel does not prevent the appearance of new lesions or the increased growth of KS lesions not treated with Panretin® gel. Patients using Panretin® gel should avoid prolonged exposure of the treated area to sunlight or other ultraviolet light. While using Panretin® gel, you may experience some local effects such as redness, discomfort, itching, and skin peeling or flaking at the area of

A KS treatment that you can apply at home.

application. Other possible local skin effects include: rawness, surface or deep cracking, scabbing, crusting, drainage, oozing, or infection. Consult your health care provider for more information on how to manage these effects. Do not use Panretin® gel if you are pregnant or breast feeding.

Your doctor can tell you more about Panretin® gel, how to use it and what results you may expect. For more information, call 1-800-964-5836.

Please see important information about Panretin® gel on the following page.



Panretin® gel
(alitretinoin) 0.1%

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Panretin® gel
(alitretinoin) 0.1%

FOR TOPICAL USE ONLY

BRIEF SUMMARY
The following is a brief summary. Before prescribing, please consult full prescribing information.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE
Panretin® gel is indicated for topical treatment of cutaneous lesions in patients with AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma. Panretin® gel is not indicated when systemic anti-KS therapy is required (e.g., more than 10 new KS lesions in the prior month, symptomatic lymphedema, symptomatic pulmonary KS, or symptomatic visceral involvement). There is no experience to date using Panretin® gel with systemic anti-KS treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS
Panretin® gel is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to retinoids or to any of the ingredients of the product.

WARNINGS
Pregnancy: Panretin® gel could cause fetal harm if significant absorption were to occur in a pregnant woman. 9-*cis*-Retinoic acid has been shown to be teratogenic in rabbits and mice. An increased incidence of fused sternebrae and limb and craniofacial defects occurred in rabbits given oral doses of 0.5 mg/kg/day (about five times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m^2 basis, assuming complete systemic absorption of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid, when Panretin® gel is administered as a 60 g tube over 1 month in a 60 kg human) during the period of organogenesis. Limb and craniofacial defects also occurred in mice given a single oral dose of 50 mg/kg on day eleven of gestation (about 127 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m^2 basis). Oral 9-*cis*-retinoic acid was also embryocidal, as indicated by early resorptions and post-implantation loss when it was given during the period of organogenesis to rabbits at doses of 1.5 mg/kg/day (about 15 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m^2 basis) and to rats at doses of 5 mg/kg/day (about 25 times the estimated daily human topical dose on a mg/m^2 basis). Animal reproduction studies with topical 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted. It is not known whether topical Panretin® gel can modulate endogenous 9-*cis*-retinoic acid levels in a pregnant woman nor whether systemic exposure is increased by application to ulcerated lesions or by duration of treatment. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. If Panretin® gel is used during pregnancy, or if the patient becomes pregnant while taking it, the patient should be apprised of the potential hazard to the fetus. Women of child-bearing potential should be advised to avoid becoming pregnant.

PRECAUTIONS
Panretin® gel is indicated for topical treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma. Patients with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma were less tolerant of topical Panretin® gel; five of seven patients had 6 episodes of treatment-limiting toxicities—grade 3 dermal irritation—with Panretin® gel (0.01% or 0.05%).

Photosensitivity: Retinoids as a class have been associated with photosensitivity. There were no reports of photosensitivity associated with the use of Panretin® gel in the clinical studies. Nonetheless, because in vitro data indicate that 9-*cis*-retinoic acid may have a weak photosensitizing effect, patients should be advised to minimize exposure of treated areas to sunlight and sunlamps during the use of Panretin® gel.

Drug Interactions: Patients who are applying Panretin® gel should not concurrently use products that contain DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), a common component of insect repellent products. Animal toxicology studies showed increased DEET toxicity when DEET was included as part of the formulation.

Although there was no clinical evidence in the vehicle-controlled studies of drug interactions with systemic antiretroviral agents, including protease inhibitors, macrolide antibiotics, and azole antifungals, the effect of Panretin® gel on the steady-state concentrations of these drugs is not known. No drug interaction data are available on concomitant administration of Panretin® gel and systemic anti-KS agents.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions: No interference with laboratory tests has been observed.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term studies in animals to assess the carcinogenic potential of 9-*cis*-retinoic acid have not been conducted. 9-*cis*-Retinoic acid was not mutagenic in vitro (bacterial assays, Chinese hamster ovary cell HGPRT mutation assay) and was not clastogenic in vitro (chromosome aberration test in human lymphocytes) nor in vivo (mouse micronucleus test).

Pregnancy Category D (see "Warnings" section)

Nursing Mothers: It is not known whether alitretinoin or its metabolites are excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential for adverse reactions from Panretin® gel in nursing infants, mothers should discontinue nursing prior to using the drug.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients have not been established.

Geriatric Use: Inadequate information is available to assess safety and efficacy in patients age 65 years or older.

ADVERSE REACTIONS
The safety of Panretin® gel has been assessed in clinical studies of 385 patients with AIDS-related KS. Adverse events associated with the use of Panretin® gel in patients with AIDS-related KS occurred almost exclusively at the site of application. The dermal toxicity begins as erythema; with continued application of Panretin® gel, erythema may increase a edema may develop. Dermal toxicity may become treatment-limiting, with intense erythema edema, and vesiculation. Usually, however, adverse events are mild to moderate in severity; they led to withdrawal from the study in only 7% of the patients. Severe local (application site) skin adverse events occurred in about 10% of patients in the U.S. study (versus 0% i the vehicle control). Table 1 lists the adverse events that occurred at the application site wi an incidence of at least 5% during the double-blind phase in the Panretin® gel-treated group and in the vehicle control group in either of the two controlled studies. Adverse events were reported at other sites but generally were similar in the two groups.

TABLE 1
Adverse Events with an Incidence of at Least 5% at the Application Site in Either Controlled Study in Patients Receiving Panretin® Gel or Vehicle Control

Adverse Event Term	Study 1		Study 2	
	Panretin® Gel N=134 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=134 Pts. %	Panretin® Gel N=36 Pts. %	Vehicle Gel N=46 Pts. %
Rash[1]	77	11	25	4
Pain[2]	34	7	0	4
Pruritus[3]	11	4	8	4
Exfoliative dermatitis[4]	9	2	3	0
Skin disorder[5]	8	1	0	0
Paresthesia[6]	3	0	22	7
Edema[7]	8	3	3	0

Includes Investigator terms:
[1] Erythema, scaling, irritation, redness, rash, dermatitis
[2] Burning, pain
[3] Itching, pruritus
[4] Flaking, peeling, desquamation, exfoliation
[5] Excoriation, cracking, scab, crusting, drainage, eschar, fissure or oozing
[6] Stinging, tingling
[7] Edema, swelling, inflammation

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION
Panretin® gel should initially be applied two (2) times a day to cutaneous KS lesions. The application frequency can be gradually increased to three (3) or four (4) times a day according to individual lesion tolerance. If application site toxicity occurs, the application frequency can be reduced. Should severe irritation occur, application of drug can be temporarily discontinued for a few days until the symptoms subside.

Sufficient gel should be applied to cover the lesion with a generous coating. The gel shoul be allowed to dry for three to five minutes before covering with clothing. Because unaffect skin may become irritated, application of the gel to normal skin surrounding the lesions should be avoided. In addition, do not apply the gel on or near mucosal surfaces of the bod

A response of KS lesions may be seen as soon as two weeks after initiation of therapy bu most patients require longer application. With continued application, further benefit may be attained. Some patients have required over 14 weeks to respond. In clinical trials, Panretin® gel was applied for up to 96 weeks. Panretin® gel should be continued as long as the patient is deriving benefit.

Occlusive dressings should not be used with Panretin® gel.

OVERDOSAGE
There has been no experience with acute overdose of Panretin® gel in humans. Systemic toxicity following acute overdosage with topical application of Panretin® gel is unlikely because of limited systemic plasma levels observed with normal therapeutic doses. There is no specific antidote for overdosage.

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Stiefel Laboratories, Inc.
Coral Gables, FL 33134

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San Diego, California 92121

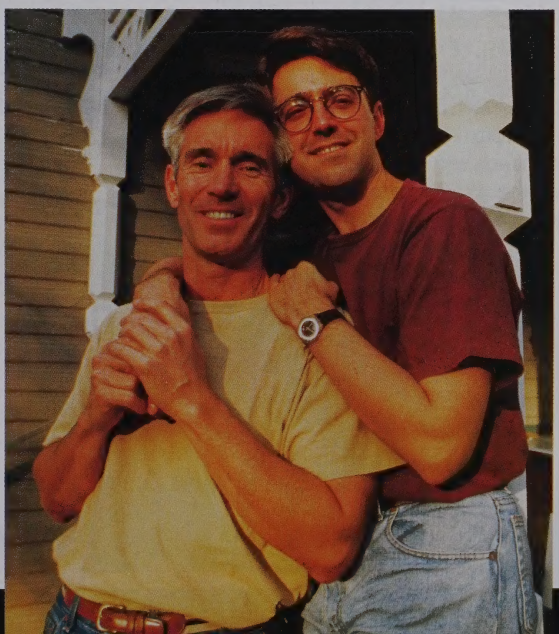
By Chris Mabry

HIV Infection and AIDS

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was first reported in the United States in 1981 and has since become a major worldwide pandemic. Today AIDS is believed by most serious researchers and medical practicioners to be caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). By killing or impairing cells of the immune system, HIV progressively destroys the body's ability to fight infections and certain cancers. Individuals diagnosed with AIDS are susceptible to life-threatening diseases called opportunistic infections, which are caused by microbes that usually do not cause illness in healthy people.

More than 600,000 cases of AIDS have been reported in the United States since 1981, and as many as 900,000 Americans may be infected with HIV. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the prevalence of AIDS today is six times higher in African-Americans and three times higher among Hispanics than among whites.

HIV is spread through bodily fluids, most commonly by sexual contact with an infected partner. The virus can enter the body through the lining of the vagina, vulva, penis, rectum or mouth during sex. HIV also is spread through contact with infected blood; however, because of blood screening and heat treatment, the risk of acquiring HIV from blood transfusions today is extremely small. Also, HIV frequently is spread among injection drug users by the sharing of needles or syringes, and women can transmit HIV to their fetuses during pregnancy or birth. Although researchers have detected HIV in the saliva of infected individuals, no evidence exists that the virus is spread by contact with saliva.



In short, HIV can infect anyone who practices risky behaviors such as:

- Sharing drug needles or syringes.
- Having sexual contact without using a latex male condom with an infected person or with someone whose HIV status is unknown.
- Having another sexually transmitted disease such as syphilis, herpes, chlamydial infection, gonorrhea or bacterial vaginosis appears to make someone more susceptible to acquiring HIV infection during sex with an infected partner.

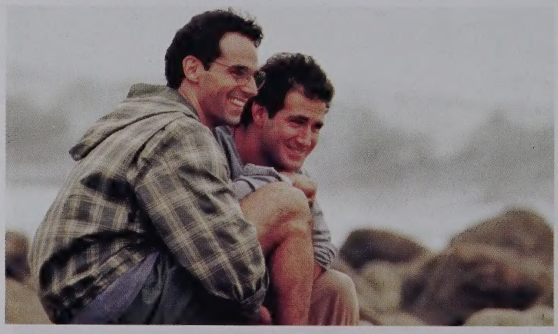
Many people do not develop any symptoms when they first become infected with HIV, although some people have a flu-like illness within a month or two after exposure to the virus. They may have fever, headache, malaise and enlarged lymph nodes (organs of the immune system easily felt in the neck and groin). These symptoms usually disappear within a week to a month and are often mistaken

HIV Infection and AIDS

for those of another viral infection. People are very infectious during this period, and HIV is present in large quantities in genital secretions.

Frequent testing is very important if you are at high risk of contracting HIV. Such early testing enables people to receive appropriate treatment at a time when they are most able to combat HIV and prevent the emergence of certain opportunistic infections. HIV testing is done in most doctors' offices or health clinics and should always be accompanied by counseling. Individuals can be tested anonymously at many sites if they have particular concerns about confidentiality (please see our resource list opposite for Atlanta locations). Please remember before being tested: "Confidential" means a promise is made that your identity will not be disclosed by the tester; "Anonymous" means that your identity is never known to the tester at all.

When AIDS first surfaced in the United States, no drugs were available to combat the underlying immune deficiency. Over the past 10 years, however, a number of therapies have been developed to fight both HIV infection and its associated infections and cancers and still more are in the pipeline today. The first group of drugs used to treat HIV infection, called nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs), interrupt an early stage of virus replication. Included in this class of drugs are AZT, ddC, ddI, D4T, 3TC and abacavir. These drugs may slow the spread of HIV in the body and delay the onset of opportunistic infections. They do not, however, prevent transmission of HIV to other individuals. Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs) such as are also available for use in combination with other anti-retroviral drugs. A third class of anti-HIV drugs, called protease inhibitors, interrupts virus replication at a later step in its life cycle. Because HIV can become resistant to each class of drugs, combination treatment using both is necessary to effectively suppress the virus. Currently available antiretroviral drugs do not cure people of HIV infection or AIDS, however, and they all have side effects that can be severe. This is the major reason prevention is the key to succesfully fighting HIV/AIDS within our communities. SAFE SEX SAVES LIVES. It is that simple. Because many people infected with HIV have no symptoms, there is no way of knowing with certainty whether a sexual partner is infected unless he or she has been repeatedly tested for the virus or has not engaged in any risky behavior. CDC recommends that people either abstain from sex or protect themselves by using male latex condoms whenever having oral, anal or vaginal sex. Only male condoms made of latex should be used, and water-based lubricants should be used with latex condoms. Remember: SAFE SEX SAVES LIVES!



Atlanta is at the forefront of the fight against HIV/AIDS, and we have a number of outstanding resources available to us here (see box above).

AID Atlanta 404 872 0600
AID Atlanta Client Services 404 874 6517
AID Gwinnett 770 962 8396
AIDS Education and Services for Minorities 404 753 2900
AIDS Legal Project 404 614 3969
AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA) 404 876 2317
AIDS Survival Project 404 874 7926
AIDS Treatment Initiatives (ATI) 404 874 4845
Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Center 404 876 5372
Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network - Common Ground 404 874 6425
ChildKind 404 892 8313
First Call For Help 404 614 1000
Georgia AIDS Information Line – Atlanta 404 876 9944
Georgia AIDS Information Line – Statewide 800 551 2728
Georgia Division of Public Health
STD/HIV Section (DHR) 404 657 3100
Georgia Division of Public Health
TB Section (DHR) 404 657 2634
Living Room 404 616 6332
Mercy Mobile Health Care 404 249 8600
MIST Line (MD, RN only) 800 UAB MIST
National prevention Information Network 800 458 5231
(formerly National AIDS Clearinghouse)
National AIDS Hotline 800 342 AIDS
National HIV Phone Consultation Service (MD, RN only) 800 933 3413
Outreach, Inc. 404 346 3922
Ponce de Leon Center/Infectious Disease Program:
Operator 404 616 2440
New Patient Information 404 616 9759
Project Open Hand/Atlanta 404 872 6947
Sisterlove, Inc. 404 753 7733
Southside Healthcare Infectious Disease Program 404 688 1350 (x575)
Suicide Hotline (24 hour) 404 730 1600

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Hot'lanta = Hot Party Town

From New Orleans to South Beach, southerners are known for their ability to throw a party, and Atlanta is no exception. From circuit parties to cabaret-style benefits, from black tie events to black leather, Atlantans prove year round their ability to throw a good party and to have a good time.

By Chris Mabry

On The Circuit

The first weekend of every August brings us the Hotlanta River Expo (http://www.hotlanta.org), an event called the "grandfather of all circuit parties". August 10th through the 13th , 2000 are the dates for Hotlanta's 22nd annual weekend event, this year called "Year of the Dragon". While the party originally centered around the Raft Race down the Chattahoochee River, health concerns and the river's declining quality have reduced its significance in recent years. Instead, the focus now is almost entirely the parties and pageants. The weekend of events

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traditionally opens with the Ms. Hotlanta Pageant, followed by the Mr. Hotlanta contest and its after party. As usual with circuit parties, the biggest event falls on Saturday night although the Sunday afternoon T-Dance and recovery party Sunday night are also enormously popular. Hotlanta has become known throughout the years for bringing some of the best DJs and performers to town along with droves of out-of-town circuit boys, and that shows no signs of changing any time soon.

Also popular is the annual Project Open Hand benefit, "Masquerade" (http://www.projectopenhand.org), with the 12th annual party to be held next year. Timed as a celebration of Mardi Gras and usually falling in February (depending upon the date of Ash Wednesday), Masquerade began as a one night event devoted to bringing the fun of the Carnival and Mardi Gras madness to Atlanta (and saving us all a trip to the Big Easy). Frequently known as the Purple Party, Masquerade's big Saturday night dance expanded to include Friday night events of headliner stars, cabaret performances and black tie attire making up "The Gold Party". More recently, The Gold Party has become a kickoff event to the later Purple Party, both occurring on the same night. Not quite as large or as old as Hotlanta, Masquerade is still very popular as a more locally oriented event.

This past spring brought the third annual "Change of Seasons" party (http://www.changeofseasons.com), under new ownership for the year 2000. While still young and lately experiencing a few growing pains, Change of Seasons is nonetheless becoming known nationally for providing party-goers with DJs and performers that are among the best anywhere. Originally held in local bars and clubs, Change of Seasons this year took over the Fabulous Fox Theatre's Egyptian Ballroom for one of its best parties to date.

In addition to circuit parties, Atlanta has a thriving dance and party culture that includes a number of renowned weekly parties and perhaps one of the most famous clubs still in operation anywhere, Backstreet. Packed to the gills every Friday and Saturday night, Backstreet is one of the few clubs of its stature and size in the country to be open 24 hours a day seven days a week, and it has undeniably contributed to Atlanta's reputation as a party destination.

Other circuit-style parties can usually be found during gay & lesbian Atlanta's major events, and while they might lack the heritage or organization and publicity of the bigger parties, they certainly can be equally as fun. Look for parties to be held around the annual Atlanta Pride Festival the last weekend in June, In The Life Atlanta's Black Gay Pride weekend over Labor Day, and over the weekends around Halloween. It's also worth keeping your eyes and ears open; a number of Atlanta organizations and clubs throw special parties and T-dances year round, often bringing Nationally renowned DJs to spin at such unusual locations as closed restaurants or pool side in Piedmont Park. Check local publications or web sites

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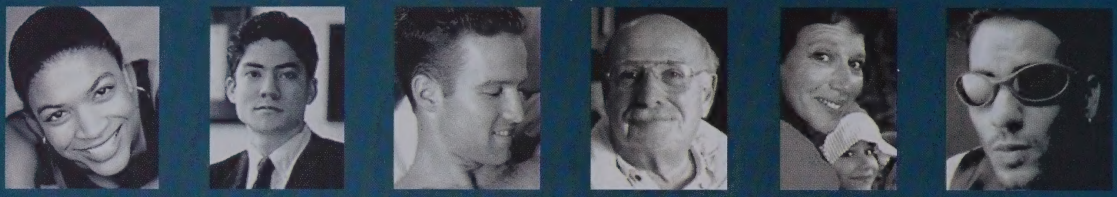

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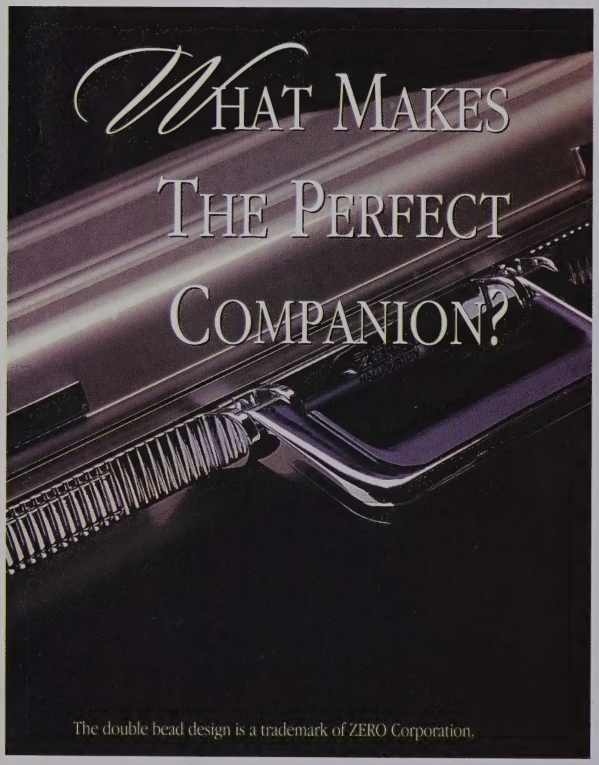

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Black Ties, Cabarets and more

Cabaret style events seem to be unusually popular fundraisers in Atlanta, and they tend to pop up about once every two months. In the same vein are our regularly scheduled Black Tie events, including the annual Human Rights Campaign dinner and Positive Impact's "Voyage For A Common Cause" (http://www.ontapatlanta.com/pi casino night, this year held in the late spring. Early June brings us the less formal but wildly popular annual AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta wine-tasting fundraiser "Uncork A Cure" (http://www.aidsresearchatlanta.org).

New to the Formal Affairs category this year was the "Prizm Ball", held New Years Eve at the Fernbank Center. Gay and lesbian Atlantans were clearly ready for the opportunity to "dress up and dance in the New Year" as organizers raised one hundred thousand dollars, donated to several charities serving at-risk gay and lesbian youth. December 31, 2000 will find the 2nd Annual Prizm Ball at the newly renovated Sheraton Buckhead. The same hotel (lavishly redone we are told) will also play host to the annual "Good Friends for Good Causes" party. Slated for December 1, 2000, the Good Friends for Good Causes partygoers raise funds for the Atlanta Lesbian Cancer Initiative and Charis Circle while kicking off the holiday season to big band sounds.

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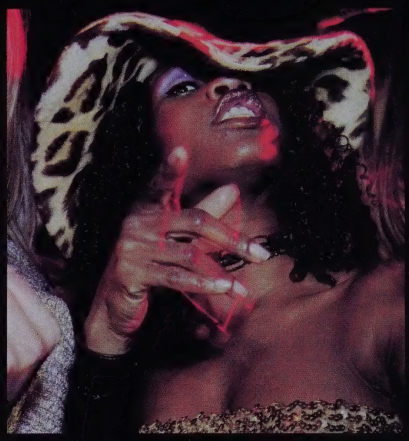
Party In Your Leather

Atlanta also has an unusually strong leather community that holds events throughout the year. In addition to frequent festivities targeted mainly at locals, June 16-18 brings us SouthEast Leather Fest V (http://ww5.smart.net/~lthrfest), an annual event that brings leather folk from throughout the region and the country to Atlanta for contests, seminars and a vendor's market that grows every year. Local leather club the Panthers host their annual run in the Fall, an event that includes a bi-annual contest but seems to be more of an excuse to have fun and socialize than anything else. With April showers come Atlanta S&M Solidarity's (http://www.lambda.net/~atlsmsol/), "Spring in the South" a weekend of social and educationally focused events now some 11 years strong. Other special weekends in the local leather community command smaller audiences, the annual Atlanta Eagle Anniversary Weekend for example, but these smaller events still never fail to bring out local crowds decked out in their best cow hide.

Like all true Southerners, Atlantans definitely know how to throw a party and to have a good time; simply keep your eyes and ears open or follow the crowds. It's hard to find a quiet weekend among gay and lesbian Atlantans, and it's even harder to not have fun at any of these events! In the immortal words of Atlanta's own diso queen Alicia Bridges, "Action! I Love the Nightlife!"

Chris Mabry is an Atlanta based web developer, writer, and corporate events producer working to support his dog in the style to which she has become accustomed. He can be reached at soundboy@aol.com.



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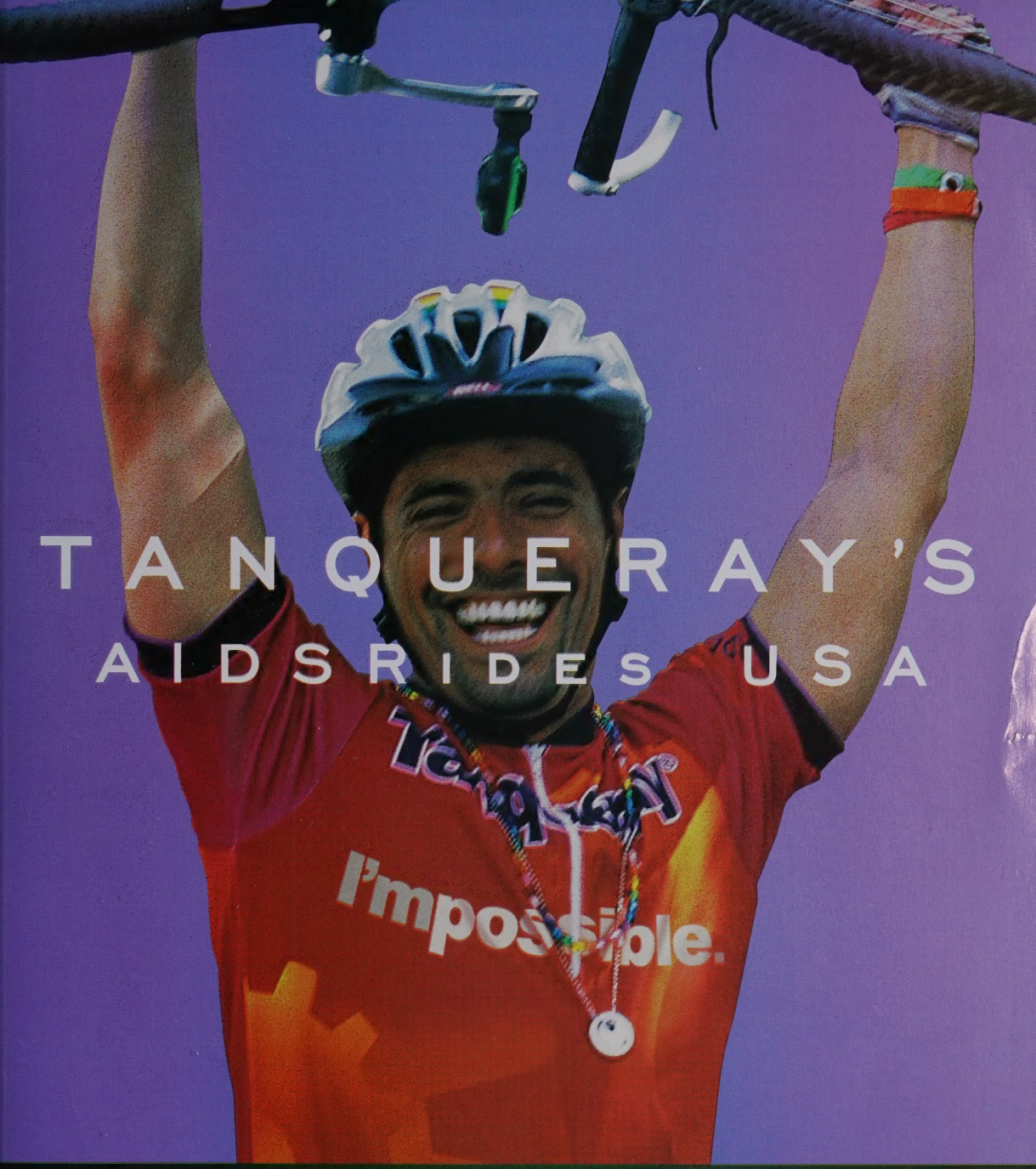

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